FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Soviet Union

Vol III No 240

13 December 1983

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DISARMAMENT/START/MBFR

U.S. Chasing 'Illusory' Military Superiority AA 1
[Ovchinnikov in PRAVDA 12 Dec]
Bogachev Views NATO Defense Planning Session AA 3
European Security Discussed at Geneva Meeting AA 5
[Korzhev]
Scientists Express Concern Over U.S. Missiles AA 6

COMMUNIST RELATIONS

Interbloc Conference Hits U.S. 'Imperialism' BB 1
[PRAVDA 11 Dec]
Meeting Ends 9 Dec BB 3
[TANJUG]

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

NATO 'Atlantic Marathon' Proceedings Discussed CC 1
U.S. Pushing Weapons 'Buildup' CC 1
[Drobkov in PRAVDA 9 Dec]
Communique Castigated CC 1
Cheysson NATO Speech on Missiles Criticized CC 3
Human Rights Declaration Anniversary Marked CC 4
Moscow Press Conference CC 4
Islamic Conference Criticizes U.S.-Israeli Ties CC 5
Allies 'Surrendered' to U.S. in 'Atlantic Week' CC 5

UNITED STATES & CANADA

Reagan Justifies 'Interventionist Operations' A 1
Reagan 'Obsessed' With 'Persecution Mania' A 1
[Kikilo]
USSR UN Mission's Glen Cove Residence Attacked A 2
'Pentagon-Pressured' U.S. Shuttle Program Assessed A 3
[Belitskiy]
U.S.-USSR Symposium Held on Nuclear War Results A 4
[PRAVDA 9 Dec]
Gramov Leads USSR Olympic Group on U.S. Visit A 4
[IZVESTIYA 9 Dec]
U.S. Military Bases 'Threat to Peace,' USSR A 5
[Gorshkov in IZVESTIYA 10 Dec]
'Futile' U.S. 'Schemes' in W. Europe, Asia Hit A 9
[Nepesov in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 10 Dec]

SOUTH ASIA

Pakistan Steps Up 'Espionage' Against India D 1
Arkhipov Meets With India's Singh, Gandhi
[IZVESTIYA 10 Dec] D 1
Afghanistan Hits 'Piratic' U.S. Mideast Actions D 2

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC

Aliyev, SRV's Tran Quynh Discuss Joint Relations
[IZVESTIYA 10 Dec] E 1

EASTERN EUROPE

Ustinov Leaves Sofia, Arrives in Moscow
[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 11 De-] F 1
Eastern Allies Back Soviet Missile Stance
Gaebler-Led Delegation Visits USSR
[PRAVDA 11 Dec] F 1
GDR's Stoph Speaks on USSR Missile Deployment
[PRAVDA 10 Dec] F 3
USSR-GDR Cooperation Panel Meets in Berlin
[PRAVDA 11 Dec] F 4
MSZMP Plenum Backs USSR Missile Deployment
[PRAVDA 10 Dec] F 4
Polish Editor on Economic Sanctions, Deployment
[Bek in PRAVDA 10 Dec] F 5
Zhivkov Cables Andropov, Arrives in Delhi F 6

WESTERN EUROPE F 8

Cheysson Accused of 'Kowtowing to NATO'
[Bogachev in IZVESTIYA 11 Dec] G 1
French Businessmen Seen Promoting Militarism
[Genri in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 10 Dec] G 1
Fiterman Talks With Gromyko, Aliyev Detailed
[PRAVDA 11 Dec] G 2
France To Withdraw From Namibia Contact Group G 3
U.S. Economic Policy Seen Undermining EEC
[Ablamov] G 4
FRG Reactions to Missile Deployment Cited
'Peace Champions' Protest
[Vinogradov] G 5
Brandt: Deployment 'Wrong' G 5
Ponomarev Receives Visiting Italian CP Delegates G 5
Sweden's Palme on Nuclear-Free Zone Proposal G 6
Belgian Senate Demands Disarmament 'Initiatives'
[Balebanov] G 6
Austrian Leaders Interviewed on Detente Issues G 7
[Fedorov in NEW TIMES No 48]
Turkey's Turgut Ozal Asked To Form Government G 7
Soviet-Irish Commission Session Reported
[IZVESTIYA 10 Dec] G 10
G 10

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Syrian Government Hits U.S.-Israeli 'Conspiracy' H 1
Progressive Front Stresses Syrian 'Unity' H 1
PDRY, Syrian UN Delegates Decry U.S. 'Terrorism' H 1
Factors, Causes of 'Near East Problem' Reviewed H 2
[Pravdin, Belyayev]
Palestinian 'Political Discord' Termed 'Tragic' H 5
[Volskiy in NOVOYE VREMYA 2 Dec]
Lebanese Events Show U.S. 'Hegemonist' Desires H 6
[Glukhov in PRAVDA 9 Dec]
U.S., Israeli Actions in Lebanon 'Escalate' H 7
Speakes Says U.S. in Lebanon 'Indefinitely' H 8
Suspects in Kuwait Explosions Arrested H 8
Group Claims Responsibility H 8
PRAVDA Carries Iranian Tudeh Party Statement H 9
[10 Dec]
Maritime Agreement Signed With Tunisia H 9
[IZVESTIYA 11 Dec]

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

ANC Statement Hits U.S. Missile Deployment J 1
Upper Volta's Holiday Noted, Past Reviewed J 1
[Prosvetov in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 9 Dec]

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

Soviet Delegates, Argentine Officials Hold Talks K 1
[IZVESTIYA 11 Dec]
Bush Arrival in El Salvador Reported 12 Dec K 1
Met by Protests K 1
'Big Pine-3' To Focus on 'Anti-Guerrilla War' K 2
U.S. Actions in Grenada Called 'Illegal' K 2
[Sukharev in IZVESTIYA 10 Dec]

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Papers Report Shevardnadze, Kunayev Activities R 1
IZVESTIYA Profiles New Minister Velichko R 1
[11 Dec]
Leningrad Obkom Bureau Discusses Trade Services R 1
[LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA 30 Nov]
12th Tajik Central Committee Plenum Held R 2
[KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA 1 Dec]
'Ideological Sabotage' in Nationalism, Religion R 3
[Semenov]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Marchuk Calls Economic Experiment 'Milestone' S 1
[PRAVDA 9 Dec]
Briefs: Switching to Gas Heat; Recycling Heat; S 6
New Supertrawler; Heavy-Load Cars

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Increased Demands on Servicemen Acknowledged V 1
[Editorial in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 4 Dec]

U.S. CHASING 'ILLUSORY' MILITARY SUPERIORITY

PM130948 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Dec 83 First Edition p 6

[Article by PRAVDA political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov: "Chasing After Illusory Superiority"]

[Text] "We are currently living in a world that is too fragile. Responsible statesmen must therefore evaluate events and make rational decisions. Human reason alone can and must protect mankind from the terrible danger. We urge all those who are pushing the world along the road of an increasingly dangerous arms race to abandon their illusory hopes of thus attaining military superiority in order to dictate to other peoples and states," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's 25 November statement says.

Unfortunately, today Washington continues to gamble on military might, on the arms race. And the more the current U.S. Administration makes a cult out of strength and arbitrariness and the more frequently it resorts to international terrorism as an instrument of policy, the more cynical the White House incubent's efforts to pose as a "peacemaker" become. He made sure he did this during this recent visit to the Japanese parliament. "The only purpose in having nuclear weapons," the U.S. President said then, "is to ensure that these weapons are never used." And this was said by the head of the state that was the first to use atomic weapons, and said not just anywhere, but in the parliament of the country that was the victim of the atomic bombings.

The demagoguery and cynicism of the advocate of first law are particularly striking when you compare Reagan's address to the Japanese parliament with his conversation with a group of U.S. schoolchildren in the White House. Reagan reminded them that during World War II the United States was the only country to use atomic weapons. But he added that no one else had them at the time. "Now," the President concluded, "ask yourselves the question: Would we have dropped that bomb had we known that the Japnese had a similar one and were capable of dropping it on us?"

This philosophy, if you can go so far as to call it that, encapsulates the strategic military concepts current in the White House under Truman, which are making themselves felt with renewed force today. It is this mentality that brings together those who destroyed Hiroshima and those who have strong-armed the NATO allies and have already started cramming that territory of Britain, the FRG, and Italy with lethal nuclear missiles and who are planning to transform Europe into a "Euroshima" of smoldering ruins.

A hideously treacherous plan was in the making: to make a nuclear strike against the Soviet Union before it had managed to heal the wounds of war and thus remove the final obstacle to total U.S. dominion over the postwar world. On 3 November 1945, less than 3 months after the destruction of Hiroshima and 2 months after Japan's capitulation, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff received Joint Intelligence Committee Report No 329. The first paragraph read: "Select approximately 20 most important targets suitable for strategic atomic bombardment in the USSR and in territory controlled by it."

On 14 December 1945 another Pentagon body -- the Joint Military Planning Committee -- ussued Directive No 432/D. Long-range aircraft were directed to use bases in Britain, Italy, British India (Agra), China (Chengdu), and Japan (Okinawa) for an attack on the USSR. "Using all the available 196 atomic bombs, "the directive said," the United States would be able to deal the industrial sources of USSR military power such a devastating blow that it would ultimately provide decisive."

The final paragraph of Directive No 432/D demonstrates the true worth of the nonstop blather about the phony "Soviet threat." It said: "At present the Soviet Union lacks the capability to cause similar destruction to U.S. industry. But when the USSR has a strategic air force with bombers with a range of 5,000 miles and the atom bomb it will be in a position to deliver a retaliatory strike and the current decisive U.S. advantage will be nullified."

So strike first, strike before the Soviet Union has fully recovered from its sacrifices and from the devastation while the Unites States still has economic and military superiority, strike after first surrounding the USSR with U.S. bases. This is the gist of the Pentagon's strategy in 1945. Even then it contained the main elements of the present-day U.S. doctrine, which is based on a first strike and on forward-based facilities deployed in allied countries.

Later on, National Security Council Memorandum No 7, concocted in March 1948, contained the words: "The rout of the forces of world communism, led by the Soviets, is of vital importance for U.S. security. This goal cannot be attained by means of a defensive policy. Therefore, the United States must take a leading role in organizing a worldwide counteroffensive to mobilize and strengthen our own forces and anticommunist forces in the non-Soviet world and also to undermine the communist forces' might."

Undeniably a style which befits the lexicon of the cold war days! But wouldn't you say it accords with the "style" the current U.S. Administration is resorting to? Not only with the style but also with U.S. actions.

"When assessing all this," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's November statement says, "the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries cannot turn a blind eye to the fact that Washington has declared a 'crusade' against socialism as a social system and that those who have now ordered the deployment of the new nuclear armaments on our doorstep are basing their practical policy on this foolhardy premise. It seems that by deploying Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe the governments of a number of NATO countries want to provide a concrete nuclear missile foundation for this adventurist premise."

In 1948 the Pentagon laid the basis for the deployment of U.S. forward-based nuclear forces in Western Europe. B-29 strategic bombers -- then the only carriers of atom bombs -- appeared at British airfields.

The creation of NATO was announced 4 April 1949. The scale of the planned attack on the USSR grew as more and more countries joined the anti-Soviet coalition and the Pentagon accumulated more and more atomic charges. According to the "Trojan" plan, 70 Soviet cities were now strike targets,. Hostilities were to commence 1 January 1950. Why, then, did the preemptive atomic strike not take place? Primarily because the number of charges and delivery vehicles the Pentagon possessed at the time could not guarantee the neutralization of the USSR's defense might and the civtorious outcome of the adventure.

It was decided to accumulate a larger force for the strike and to involve more countries in the attack on the USSR. This would take time. In 1949 the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff started to work on the "Dropshot" plan. The Plan switched the commencement of hostilities to 1 January 1957. And it envisaged that all the NATO countries would join the United States in waging war. At the first stage of the conflict the plan was to drop 30 atom bombs on 100 Soviet cities.

But then an event occurred which poured cold water on the Pentagon strategists' ardor. On 3 September 1949 a U.S. B-29 bomber making a patrol flight over the northern part of the Pacific Ocean discovered increased radioactivity in the upper layers of the atmosphere. A check on the data left no doubt: The Soviet Union would need only 4 years to break the U.S. monopoly on atomic weapons.

"What do we do now?" These were President Truman's words, expressing bewilderment and confusion, when he heard the news of the Soviet atomic explosion. However, a reply to this rhetorical question was very soon framed: What is the quickest way to acquire a hydrogen bomb so that the United States can regain military superiority and try to blackmail the Soviet Union again?

On 1 November 1952 the first U.S. thermonuclear device was tested on Eniwetok Atoll in the Pacific. But on 20 August 1953 Washington officials were once again reduced to a state of shock. TASS related a report which said: "A few days ago a type of hydrogen bomb was exploded in the Soviet Union for test purposes."

The Pentagon started talking about deploying Thor and Jupiter medium-range ballistic missiles in Western Europe. At the same time, the buildup of the Strategic Air Force continued. By the mid-fifties the United States had laid the foundation for today's chain of bases around the Soviet Union. The aim was to secure U.S. military superiority via forward-based forces. But these expectations were in vain. On 4 October 1957 the Soviet Union put the first artificial earth satellite into orbit. The launch meant that the USSR had intercontinental missiles, so the United States could no longer count on geographical invulnerability.

To treat the atom bomb as a trump card and see it as the guarantee of a dominant role for the United States in the postwar world was an illusion from the start. But the Washington strategists clutched at one technical innovation after another in the hope that it would be the key to military superiority. Having lost their monopoly of the atom bomb, they went for the hydrogen bomb. Then they pinned their hopes on missile submarines, then on missiles with multiple warheads, then on neutron weapons, and then on the militarization of space.

It is Washington which has started each new round of the nuclear arms race. And on each occasion its initiators have ended up with in the same position as Truman with his bankrupt policy of atomic blackmail. It is time the imitators of this course realized that to seek military superiority is to chase an illusion which is both senseless and dangerous.

BOGACHEV VIEWS NATO DEFENSE PLANNING SESSION

LD1019l6 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1824 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow, 10 Dec (TASS) -- TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev writes: At the NATO Defense Planning Committee session that has ended in Brussels its participants doubtlessly dealt also with routine issues. The United States tried strenuously to extract new spending for military purposes from their allies and demanded that the West Europeans assume far-reaching obligations regarding involvement in American adventures "beyond the limits of the sphere of operation of the North Atlantic alliance," that is to say, in practice throughout the world. The West Europeans timidly tried to resist, complaining about "scarcity of resources" and "the difficult economic situation," and demanded their own share when orders for the production of NATO armaments are distributed.

However, if one is to judge by the final communique of the committee session, the main task of its participants consists of launching a new propaganda campaign around the imaginary "Soviet military threat" to justify to the world public the unprecedented buildup in NATO armaments.

The NATO planners in particular shed crocodile tears on account of the "upset military balance" as a result of the deployment of SS-20 medium-range missiles by the Soviet Union. As a matter of act, the appearance of these Soviet missiles did not in the least upset the approximate parity between the sides in Europe. For each two SS-20 installations deployed, the USSR simultaneously dismantled three SS-4 and SS-5 missiles. Before the beginning of SS-20 deployment the USSR had about 600 medium-range missiles, whereas now their number is 473. In addition, the power of warheads for the SS-20 is less than for the old SS-4 and SS-5 missiles. As a whole, the power of all warheads on Soviet medium-range missiles has been almost halved.

The USSR does indeed have more nuclear warheads on medium-range missiles in the European zone than NATO. However in general NATO has a 50-percent advantage in the overall number of nuclear charges on all medium-range delivery vehicles (not just on missiles, but also on aircraft).

After March 1982, when the Soviet Union announced its unilateral moratorium, the USSR did not deploy a single missile or a single medium-range nuclear-capable aircraft in its European region.

The new U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe would create a threat to the parity that has developed in Europe and on a global scale. That is precisely why, after the commencement of the delivery of U.S. missiles in Britain, the FRG, and Italy, the Soviet Union announced the adoption of essential retaliatory measures, which were forced upon its, measures that are intended to maintain the military balance.

The allegations by the NATO bosses that over the next few years stocks of nuclear ammunition in West Europe will reach "the lowest level for the last 20 years" are also without foundation.

Indeed, in 1984-89 the United States plans to withdraw from Europe some of its outdated warheads for Pershing I and Honest John missiles, old 203.2-mm-calibre artillery charges, aircraft bombs, and land mines. However, in place of this "rusty scrap" as the Western press calls these charges, which were produced in the 1950s, the United States intends to bring into West Europe by 1990 7,000 new warheads for Pershing II's cruise missiles and neutron munitions for Lance missiles, for 155- and 203.2-calibre howitzers and Mark-61 aircraft bombs. As a result, the total number of U.S. nuclear munitions on the European Continent not only will not be reduced from the present level of 7,000 units but will even be increased.

The public assurances by the participants in the military planning committee session about NATO adherence to "the cause of preserving peace at the lowest possible level of armed forces" are false from start to finish. The North Atlantic alliance's actual aim of achieving military superiority over the socialist countries is absolutely unrealistic. The Warsaw Treaty countries will never allow the violation of the parity that has arisen, either on a global scale or in Europe.

EUROPEAN SECURITY DISCUSSED AT GENEVA MEETING

LD101022 Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Geneva December 10 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Korzhev.

An international colloquium on problems of European security has come to a close here. Its participatnts discussed during three days of its work the issues of limiting and reducging nuclear armaments as well as measures which would help avert the threat of nuclear war.

A nuclear catastrophe, speakers stressed, threatens mank'nd with total annihilation. American Vice-Admiral (retired) John Marshal Lee noted that even partial use of nuclear weapons would result in the death of hundreds of millions of people and terrible destruction. It is madness to launch nuclear war, he stressed. Only madmen may think that nuclear war is winnable. One cannot accept the doctrine of "limited nuclear war" since it will inevitably escalate into an all-out- nuclear conflict.

Not all participants in the colloquium, however, were guided by the aspiration to discuss effective and urgent measures on eliminating the threat of nuclear catastrophe, one of the most important problems of our time. The statement by American Senator William Cohen, who set forth Washington's official militarist doctrine, can hardly be described as constructive. Specifically, he tried to justify the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and even claimed that only further buildup and modernization of nuclear arsenals may guarantee success at the arms reduction talks.

V. L. Israelyan, head of the Soviet delegation to the Disarmament Committee, speaking at the final session, stressed that the risk of nuclear war considerably grew as a result of the unbridled arms race. Of particular danger is the appearance of new generations of nuclear missiles and their delivery vehicles. The introduction of these systems destablises and situation and upsets the existing balance of forces. He cited as an example the started deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

The Soviet Union, the speaker said, proceeds from the premise that the sliding towards a nuclear abyss can be halted. Setting forth in detail the concrete Soviet initiatives directed at curbing and slowing the arms race, starting with a nuclear freeze and ending with general and complete disarmament under strict international control, the Soviet representative said that these aims have been and remain top priority objectives of the Soviet Union's foreign policy which is pursued in close coordination with countries of the socialist community.

The Soviet initiatives, directed at preventing the use of outer space for military purposes, were backed by former U.S. Secretary of Defence Robert McNamara.

It is in the interest of all peoples to stop the race of nuclear armaments and take the road of disarmament, said Mexico's representative to the Disarmament Committee Alfonso Garcia Robles. World public opinion should be mobilized to work to the end, he stressed.

SCIENTISTS EXPRESS CONCERN OVER U.S. MISSILES

LD0Z1315 Moscow TASS in English 1205 GMT 2 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 2 TASS -- In this time disquieting for Europe and the whole of mankind the Soviet scientists deem it necessary to declare their profound concern over the extremely dangerous development of events, caused by deployment in Western Europe of new American medium-range Pershing-2 and cruise missiles. This is said in a statement of the Scientific Council for the Study of Problems of Peace and Disarmament of the USSR Academy of Sciences. It was adopted today at the meeting of the council's bureau.

Deployment of new missiles, which was undertaken by the United States and its NATO allies, "creates a fundamentally different political and strategic situation both in Europe and the whole world, largely adds to the threat of a nuclear war." The Soviet scientists believe that "since by its actions the United States foiled the possibility of attaining a mutually acceptable accord at the negotiations on questions of limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe, continuation of negotiations in these conditions would only be a cover-up for actions of the United States and a number of other NATO countries, the actions aimed at undermining European and international security".

"The comparative analysis convincingly shows that during a whole number of years in Europe there was an approximate equilibrium in the sphere of medium-range nuclear forces, which are at the disposal of NATO, represented by the United States, Britain and France, on the one hand, and the Warsaw Treaty represented by its only nuclear power, the Soviet Union, on the other hand". The statement stresses that the real causes of Washington's striving to deploy, cost what it may, its new missiles in Europe, should be sought in political and military plans of the present-day U.S. leadership, in its course, aiming at attaining military superiority over the USSR.

Soviet scientists expressed full support for the measures aimed at ensuring security of the USSR and other countries of the socialist community.

In the present-day worsening international situation the duty of all scientists is to bring to the world public the truth on the real state of affairs, to show the danger of the militaristic course of the United States and its allies, the statement points out.

INTERBLOC CONFERENCE HITS U.S. 'IMPERIALISM'

PM101701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Conference of Central Committee Secretaries of the Socialist Countries' Fraternal Parties"]

[Text] A session of the Secretaries for International and Ideological Questions of the Central Committees of Communist and Workers' Parties from Socialist Countries took place in Moscow on 9 December 1983. The session was attended by:

From the BCP: M. Balev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, and Central Committee secretaries D. Stanishev and S. Mikhaylov;

From The MSZMP: M. Ovari and G. Aczel, members of the Politburo and Central Committee secretaries; Central Committee secretary M. Szueros;

From the Communist Party of Vietnam: Central Committee Secretary Tran Xuan Bach;

From the SED: Members of the Politburo and Central Committee secretaries K. Hager, H. Axen and J. Herrmann;

From the Communist Party of Cuba: J. Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo and of the Central Committee Secretariat; A. Perez Herrero, candidate member of the Politburo and member of the Central Committee Secretariat;

From the Lao Revolutionary People's Party: Central Committee secretary Saman Vi-Gnaket;

From the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party: D. Gombojav, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; G. Adyaa, Central Committee secretary;

From the PZPR: J. Czyrek, member of the Politburo and Central Committee secretary; J. Glowczyk, candidate member of the Politburo and Central Committee secretary; Central Committee secretary H. Bednarski;

From the CPSU: K.U. Chernenko, member of the Politburo and Central Committee secretary; B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; Central Committee secretaries M.W. Zimyanin and K.V. Rusakov;

From the CPCZ: V. Bilak, member of the Presidium and Central Committee secretary; J. Fojtik, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the Central Committee.

The session was also attended by department heads and deputy heads as well as other responsible staff of the Central Committee of the fraternal parties.

There was an exchange of views on the international situation, which has sharpened as a result of the failure of the Geneva negotiations on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe caused by the U.S. Administration. Topical tasks of the political, information and propaganda work under these conditions were discussed.

Special attention was paid to the dangerous consequences of the deployment of new American missiles begun in the FRG, Britain and Italy.

The participants in the session noted that the United States and NATO are trying to change the strategic situation in the world at any price in their favor, to destroy the existing approximate balance of power and to create an additional nuclear threat to the socialist countries.

Those who support the aggressive course of the organizers of the "crusade" against socialism and all progressive forces are pursuing a short-sighted policy and condemn their peoples to subjugate themselves to the egoistic plans of the American military-industrial complex. This increases the danger not only for the countries of socialism but for the whole of Europe and even the United States, and for all the peoples; there is an increased danger of a thermonuclear inferno. The deployment of new American missiles in Europe is a serious deviation from the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference of Security and cooperation in Europe, and hinders the continuation of the course worked out at Hensinki.

It was underlined at the session that the countermeasures adopted by the Warsaw Pact states are necessary and forced. Their exclusive objective is to safeguard the security of the socialist countries and to maintain the exisitng balance of power which, under present conditions, represents a precondition for peace.

American imperialism, which is fanning international tensions, is practicing a policy of brute force and in interfering in the internal affairs of independent states. The participants in the meeting affirmed the solidarity of the fraternal parties and peoples with socialist Cuba, with Nicaragua, with the just struggle of the peoples of Grenada, El Salvador and other Central American countries and with the struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa for their freedom and independence, and condemned the aggressive policy of Washington and Tel Aviv in the Middle East. The danger to peace in Asia and worldwide, which emanates from the growing military efforts of the United States, Japan and South Korea with the support of other reactionary forces was pointed out. The session declared its full support for the efforts of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea to normalize the situation in Southeast Asia and to transform that region into a zone of peace, stability and cooperation.

The representatives of the fraternal parties underlined the firmness of the principled political course affirmed by the leading representatives of the socialist countries in Prague and Moscow this year. They agreed to adopt additional measures to inform the various circles of world public opinion about the concrete and extensive proposals of the Soviet Union and other socialist states aimed at removing nuclear weapons from Europe and radically reducing them as well as other kinds of weapons, on the basis of equality and identical security, at reversing the dangerous development of events, and at safeguarding the relaxation of tension. In this connection the great importance of the positions and proposals contained in the statements by Y.V. Andropov of 28 September and 24 November 1983, which met with a broad positive response from the people's masses, was underlined.

It was noted at the session that the socialist countries have the firm political will and have all the possibilities to prevent the undermining of their security, to defend the interests of socialism and to strive for a just and lasting peace.

The session expressed readiness to make a contribution toward the expansion and deepening of contacts with all states, movements, organizations and realistically thinking politicians which work for a constructive solution to the problems of European and international security, for lessening tensions, for lowering the level of military confrontation, for implementing peaceful coexistence and businesslike cooperation among states, regardless of their social systems. The impending Stockholm Conference on confidence and security-building measures and disarmament in Europe could serve these objectives.

The session took place in an atmosphere of businesslike and comradely cooperation, unity and international solidarity.

Meetings Ends 9 Dec

LD091728 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1655 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow, 9 Dec (TANJUG) -- The secretaries of the Central Committees of the Communist and Workers' parties of the so-called socialist community were assembled at an extraordinary conference which ended this evening in Moscow. The reason for this meeting, as officially reported, was the exacerbation of the international situation following the start of deployment of U.S. missiles in West Europe and following the break-off of the Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

NATO 'ATLANTIC MARATHON' PROCEEDINGS DISCUSSED

U.S. Pushing Weapons 'Buildup'

PM091429 Moscow Pravda in Russian 9 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Drobkov dispatch: "Running the 'Atlantic Marathon'"]

[Text] Brussels, 8 Dec -- The annual series of winter NATO sessions known as the "Atlantic Marathon" is continuing in the Belgian capital. The NATO Council session opened here today, attended by the foreign ministers of the bloc member countries.

As has already been reported, conferences of the North Atlantic bloc's leading militarist organs were held the day before. The tone and thrust of these conferences were provided by Washington's envoys. Pentagon chief C. Weinberger openly stated that inasmuch as the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe has already begun, NATO must tackle 'other "vitally important problems" such as increasing the quantity of conventional arms. In so doing Washington is now also urging its allies toward a substantial buildup of NATO's non-nuclear arsenals. At the same time, the United States is trying come what may to avoid discussing the problem of the deployment of its new missiles in Europe, by intimating that this matter is already resolved.

However, Washington's adventurist course is being criticized even by NATO members. Greek Prime Minister and Defense Minister A. Papandreou, speaking in Brussels, criticized the beginning of the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe which led to the breakdown of the Geneva talks. Belgian National Defense Miniser, Vreven stated that his country cannot afford the cost of the new weapons systems, particularly the air defense missile complexes, which the Pengagon is imposing on its allies. Many other U.S. allies have also stated that a substantial increase in military spending is impossible. The overwhelming majority of NATO members have been unable to achieve the target outlined by the bloc several years ago of an annual 3 percent increase in militarist appropriations.

Communique Castigated

LD101953 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1808 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Brussels, 10 Dec (TASS) -- The winter session of the NATO Council at the level of foreign ministers of the 16 member countries took place in the headquarters of the North Atlantic Bloc in Evere near Brussels under the slogan of further whipping up the arms race and manipulating public opinion in the spirit of militarism. This was the final, concluding stage of the "Atlantic Marathon" which began here in the first days of December.

On the agenda of the session were questions which in essence aimed to further activize military preparations, intensify tension in international relations and undermine the policy of detente in relations between East and West.

The tone of the NATO meeting was set by G. Shultz, the U.S. State secretary, who unceremoniously put pressure on his partners in this aggressive bloc, trying to force them to follow obediently the lead of the adventurist irrational policy of the White House. Washington's emissary tried, with the help of all kinds of truths and untruths, to justify the militaristic course of the present U.S. Administration and the appearance of American "Pershings" and cruise missiles on the continent of Europe.

This step aims at tipping the balance in NATO's favor. Deployment of nuclear missiles in the proximity of the borders of the Soviet Union and of its allies is not at all intended for the defense of Western Europe -- no one is threatening it. On the contrary, the deployment of American missiles will lead not to better security for Europe but rather to an increase in the real danger that the United States is to bring about a nuclear catastrophe for the peoples of Europe.

In order to mislead public opinion, those at the top in NATO are unsparing in the use of phrases like "to prevent war" and "to make every effort along the road towards genuine detente in East-West relations". But the same communique says that the NATO countries "will maintain military might which is necessary in order to... [TASS ellipses] guarantee their security," and once again support is expressed for the NATO decision to deploy new American first strike nuclear weapons in West European countries.

The leaders of the alliance are clearly unhappy about the anti-war movement which has embraced the whole world and in which millions of people of different political views are participating. In this connection THE LONDON TIMES notes that the NATO documents are clearly aimed at "reducing the concern of the participants in the anti-war movement in Western Europe over the consequences of the deployment of American missiles there."

In order to quell the upsurge of the anti-war movement and to introduce a split in its ranks, the compilers of the communique and of the so-called "Brussels Declaration" hypocritically express "regret" in connection with the fact that the USSR, in view of the deployment of U.S. nuclear missile means in Western Europe, considered its further participation in the Geneva talks impossible and, hiding behind a screen of demagogy, express hope that the USSR will, allegedly, return to the talks. However, these calculations are illusory and have absolutely no basis. The 24 November statement by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, clearly and extremely explicitly says that "if the United States and the other NATO countries display their readiness to return to the situation that existed before the start of the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, the USSR will also be ready to do this. The proposals which we introduced earlier on questions of limiting and reducing nuclear armaments in Europe would then again be in force."

It is characteristic that everything concerning the policy of the USSR and the other socialist countries is presented in the NATO documents in a completely distorted from. They contain the standard NATO fabrications about the "Soviet military threat" which are used by the alliance bosses to justify their military preparations.

It should be noted that Greece and Denmark openly stated their disapproval about the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Europe, causing unconcealed annoyance to the Washington administration, which was trying to present the results of the session as "an expression of unity and cohesion". Spain refused to sign all the documents of the NATO conference in connection with the intention of F. Gonzalez's government to hold a referendum on the question of the appropriateness of the country's participation in NATO.

On the whole the NATO bloc showed that in order to implement its militaristic aims it will go as far as suppressing the demonstrations of the democratic public which does not wish to reconcile itself to the arms race.

CHEYSSON NATO SPEECH ON MISSILES CRITICIZED

LD091918 Moscow TASS in English 1859 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 9 TASS -- TASS military affairs analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes: After the U.S. frustration of Geneva talks on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson deemed it expedient to set out once again the position of his government as regards the role of the French Armed Forces in NATO's military plans.

Speaking at a session of the NATO Council in Brussels, he in fact confirmed the declaration by American General Rogers that in the event of a military conflict France would quickly join the Western Allies. He described the United States as "the main ally" of France and immediately after that, without noticing the contradiction, classed France among "third countries."

Seeking apparently to show himself to be a stauncher Reaganite than President Reagan himself, the French external relations minister charged: "The USSR strives in fact to use the permanent and recognized right to superiority over the United States." As is known, even Reagan himself, heeding the emphatic recommendation of his more competent advisers, has not repeated the absurd claim about the USSR's superiority over the United States "in fact in all aspects of military power" for as many as several months now.

Deliberately ignoring the Soviet Union's clear-cut and explicit proposal for a full balance between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty in medium-range nuclear systems in Europe, including both missiles and aircraft and warheads on them, Cheysson claimed that the USSR refuses to reckon with "the need to have an equilibrium of forces." He backed up his charge by saying that the Soviet nuclear forces have a 100 to 1 advantage over the nuclear forces of France. Cheysson, however, failed to mention the fact that the USSR measures the strength of its strategic forces in comparison not with the French forces, but first of all with the American forces, and takes into account in Europe the opposing forces of all nuclear powers, including France. He also failed for some reason to recall that the advantages of France in medium-range nuclear missiles over, say, Bulgaria is 98 to 0.

In a speech clearly intended for simpletons Cheysson grossly doctored up data which his audience, consisting of the foreign ministers of the NATO countries, could not but know. He said, for example, that "it is only the Soviet Union that has medium-range missiles." In the meantime France alone has deployed 18 ground-launched missiles with a range of 3,500 kilometres and installed 80 SLBMS aboard its submarines.

According to the French minister, "the forces of third countries" (what he meant apparently were France and Britain) "exist not to counterbalance the SS-20 missiles alone, but to counter the threat as a whole." The military specialists of the world apparently will not be able for yet a long time to make out what Claude Cheysson meant when he said this. A return to the policy of "defence in all azimuths"?

Mr Cheysson, however, is hardly prepared to reaffirm the commitment of Paris to the foreign policy conceptions of General De Gaulle. More likely, he just overdid it, trying both to please the Pentagon and to justify the unconstructive posture of France before world public opinion.

HUMAN RIGHTS DECLARATION ANNIVERSARY MARKED

UN Special Session

LD100633 Moscow TASS in English 0525 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 10 TASS -- The UN General Assembly has held a special session marking the 35th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights.

Three and a half decades after the adoption of the declaration its articles and provisions remain topical as before, the session was told by Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary-general. Man's most important right -- the right to life has not yet been secured. The apartheid system continues in existence despite the fact that the international community has ore than once condemned that system.

The session was addressed by representatives of all regional groups of the UN member-countries. Speaking on behalf of the European socialist states, Harry Ott (GDR) recalled that the declaration proclaimed every man's right to life. But today, 38 years after the end of the second world war, the right to life of the whole humanity has been called in question. The imperialist policy of confrontation and superarmament has created a situation when the threat of a nuclear war jeopardizes the existence of every people.

Moscow Press Conference

LD081542 Moscow TASS in English 1322 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 8 TASS - Vladimir Kudryavtsev, corresponding member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and director of the Institute of State and Law, has described Israel's aggression in Lebanon and the criminal actions by U.S. troops in that country as "a gross violation of the sovereignty and the right of the Lebanese people to resolve their future by themselves."

Vladimir Kudryavtsev spoke at a press conference in Moscow today, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Human Rights Day. He described as "totally groundless" the attempts by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to justify the criminal actions by the American military by international law. "Neither Israeli, nor American troops have any right to stay on Lebanese territory," the scientist stressed.

Valentin Makeyev, secretary of the Central Trade Union Council of the USSR, replying to a question by journalists, stressed that the rights of Soviet citizens, specifically the right to work, are ensured by the material and technical base of the socialist state. This does not exist in capitalist countries. In the West, Makeyev said, there are at present 32 million jobless, or three times more than in the early seventies. No unemployment benefits or welfare programmes can compensate a person for normal wages. Besides, far from everyone can draw the benefit. One out of three jobless persons in Canada, every other one in West Germany and more than half of the unemployed in the United States do not get it at all.

When a Western correspondent asked to explain the sentencing of Lithuanian priest Sigitas Tamkiavicius, Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, said that this person, taking advantage of his positions of priest, many times delivered anti-state sermons. Repeated warnings did not work. So, he was tried under an article of the criminal code for anti-state activity.

One of the American correspondents asked about the "banishment" of Academician Sakharov from Moscow. Vitaliy Ruben explained that the USSR Supreme Soviet proceeded from humane considerations and sought to help the sick person when making the decision on Academician Sakharov's moving from Moscow to Gorkiy. This was necessary, first of all, for his own peace of mind.

He said that Sakharov now lives in a calm normal situation. The academician is doing work in his line at the Institute of Physics and already wrote several research papers that appeared in publications of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and were published in the United States. All conditions for normal work were created for Sakharov. He is constantly in touch with his colleagues-physicists and discussed with them problems that interest him.

Academician Sakharov is a sick person, Vitaliy Ruben pointed out. He recalled a letter sent by the academician to the United States in which he urged the American Administration to make a nuclear strike at the USSR. By drawing nuclear fire upon himself, he thus called for a nuclear catastrophe. A healthy person will not do such things. Soviet medics are taking all necessary measures to restore his health. They are treating him at home. The Sakharov family live in normal conditions. The Soviet authorities do not insult his human dignity, and treat Sakharov with necessary tact, Vitaliy Ruben said.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE CRITICIZES U.S.-ISRAELI TIES

LD121321 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, December 12 TASS -- The Washington-Tel Aviv strategic alliance, the Israeli military occupation of Lebanon's southern part and the policy which is conducted by the United States in the Middle East have been strongly criticized by the participants in the five-day conference of foreign ministers of the Islamic Conference member-countries, which has ended here. A communique which was issued in Dhaka, points out that the provocative activities of the United States which is building up its military presence in Lebanon and the might of the naval groupings off its shores, creates a real threat to universal peace and security. The situation heightened, the foreign ministers believe, after the American air raid on positions of the Syrian contingent, part of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon.

The document turns down the so-called peace Middle East initiative of the Reagan administration, which is devoid of any meaning since the United States refuses to recognize the rights of the Arab people of Palestine and the Palestine Liberation Organization -- as its sole legitimate representative.

The participants in the conference took the decision to support all steps necessary to strengthen unity and territorial integrity of Lebanon. They stressed the need of immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli troops from the occupied Lebanese territory.

ALLIES 'SURRENDERED' TO U.S. IN 'ATLANTIC WEEK'

LD110733 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 11 TASS -- The results of the NATO "Atlantic Week" are clear evidence that most allies of the United States have once again surrendered to their "big brother".

Yet the cracks in that block are steadily widening, Yuriy Zhukov points out in the international review in PRAVDA. In an attempt to slur them over, the author points out, the participants in the NATO Council session issued an final documents a lengthy communique and a declaration containing many a false assurance about unity, striving for peace and readiness for talks with the East.

As the London newspaper TIMES has aptly noted, the authors of these propaganda papers were clearly out to "allay the fears of the participants in the anti-war movement in Western Europe over the consequences of the deployment of American missiles there." But this fresh portion of misinformation will hardly reassure the participants in the anti-war movement, Yuriy Zhukov stresses, as the authors of the final documents of the NATO session did not even deem it necessary to conceal their intention to step up the arms race further, motivating this by the hackneyed allegations about a "Soviet threat to the West".

The attempts made by the American representatives at cheering up their dismayed allies that the USSR will have to "put up" with the fait accompli of the delivery of the first Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Europe and agree to hold talks with the nuclear pistol pointed at it, have proved to be unsuccessful. "If some people in Western Europe went for the bait of the lies spread by American diplomacy and propaganda, the explicit statement of the Soviet stand given at the press conference in Moscow last Monday has put everything to its right place".

The USSR would not like to think, of course, the situation which has emerged to be irreversible, the review says, and if the NATO countries display readiness to return to the situation which existed prior to the start of the deployment of American missiles in Europe, it will be ready to do so too. "But ascribing the Soviet Union readiness to continue the old talks, as if nothing has happened, means deliberately deceiving, misleading people."

REAGAN JUSTIFIES 'INTERVENTIONIST OPERATIONS'

LD131005 Moscow TASS in English 0905 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 13 TASS -- The United States reserves the "right" to carry out brazen interventions in various parts of the world as it did in Grenada. This clearly follows from U.S. President Ronald Reagan's remarks made in New York on Monday.

Claiming once again that the invasion of Grenada was undertaken with a view to "aiding" the American citizens on the island, the White House chief stressed his administration's readiness to "do whatever it takes to protect the safety and freedom of the American people." What is more, the President implied that Washington regards it as its duty to make such interventionist operations not only in Central America, but practically in any part of the world.

Ronald Reagan left no doubts that Washington's programme of massive rearmament is subordinated exclusively to aggressive purposes. Praising it, the President said it was thanks to this programme that the American invaders were fully equipped "to get the job done" in Grenada.

The White House chief confirmed that he institutionalised the tactics of international gangsterism and terrorism. The bandit attack on Grenada, the latest developments in the Middle East and Central America show that what is meant is not only declaration of the White House's intentions, but a real policy, unceremonious violation by the Reagan administration of the principles of sovereignty of nations, basic principles of international law and the United Nations Charter.

REAGAN 'OBSESSED' WITH 'PERSECUTION MANIA'

LD121532 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent V. Kikilo reports:

The "persecution mania" that the Reagan administration has been obsessed with in the past few weeks continues progressing with every passing day, assuming increasingly more improbably forms. As became known to the TIME weekly, "surface-to-air" missiles were sited in direct proximity of the White House. They have been thoroughly masked from the eyes of passers-by and visitors of the presidential residence. According to the weekly, these missiles are intended "to protect the President and his apparatus from a sudden air attack". "The command and control centre" has been formed in the office building, next to the White House. From that "centre" Secret Service agents, responsible for the safety of the head of the administration, are conducting round-the-clock observation of all the planes taking off and landing in the national airport, located in the vicinity of the capital city.

A concrete wall was erected near the south-western gates of the presidential residence. It was erected in place of dump trucks with sand, which initially blocked up approaches to the White House. According to the TIME, these "measures of precaution" are only the latest link in a whole series of safety measures aimed to ensure more reliable protection of the President and the White House from terrorists' possible attack.

This is yet another propaganda canard on "the threat" to Reagan's life from mythical terrorists, released by the administration and built up by the U.S. mass media. The psychosis around the allegedly planned "terroristic actions" against high-placed government figures is being purposefully kindled in the country.

It is well known that the administration used the fraud, released two years ago, on "Libyan terrorists" allegedly sent to the United States for an attempt on Reagan's life, to justify armed provocations and a campaign of threats and blackmail against sovereign Libya. And now the White House uses the propaganda hullabaloo around the invented "terroristic actions" which, as they say, "are planned in the Middle East and are to be carried out in Washington," to "justify" the direct armed provocation against another Arab state -- Syria.

Using gross fabrications, the administration is now deliberately creating new "arguments" to justify continuation of the policy of armed ventures which it has been broadly resorting to in the Middle East, specifically in Lebanon. The Secret Service is trying hard to produce the greatest "impression" on the man in the street. Thus, during Reagan's recent visit to Indianapolis, TIME writes, all cross-roads in the city were blocked up by snow-cleaning machines and empty buses all along the way of the President's cortege. Any presidential cortege includes necessarily a bus with guards sitting on the ready with machine guns in their hands. Even the time of the departure of the presidential helicopter from the White House lawn to his Camp David countryside residence is not reported till the very last moment to make the movement of the head of the administration "less predictable". As to the Secret Service itself, its budget is to grow this year by 30 million dollars at a time to make around sum of 270 million dollars.

There is every indication that the American authorities, which stepped on the path of kindling military psychosis, themselves fall victim to it. They are obviously losing the capability of soberly appraising the situation and taking well-balanced decisions. Nevertheless, Washington would not stop its efforts to dictate, its will and impose wild military plans upon other countries.

USSR UN MISSION'S GLEN COVE RESIDENCE ATTACKED

LD121927 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1729 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] New York, 12 December TASS -- Anti-Soviet elements have perpetrated another criminal act against the residence of the USSR's permanent representation to the United Nations in the town of Glen Cove, near New York.

Early on Sunday morning, a car carrying a group of hooligan thugs approached the residence. The hooligans threw an explosive device with an incendiary mixture at the residence, resulting in an explosion and a fire that caused material damage.

This is far from being the first occasion in the last few months when in the atmosphere of anti-Soviet hysteria that has been supercharged in the United States, and with the connivance of the American authorities, criminal acts have been organized against Soviet establishments in New York. Despite numerous protests from the Soviet side, the American authorities have taken no measures to end such bandit acts.

'PENTAGON-PRESSURED' U.S. SHUTTLE PROGRAM ASSESSED

LD130014 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2000 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Following the conclusion of the latest flight by the American space shuttle, U.S. propaganda agencies have raised a great fuss worldwide about the shuttle's great success. In "Vantage Point" today, Boris Belitskiy speaks of the more sober view that Soviet space scientists take of the shuttle.

Without in any way wishing to detract from the proficiency, and indeed heroism displayed by the shuttle astronauts on their mission to date, which the Associated Press science writer (Harry Rosenthal) has aptly described as cliffhangers, Soviet space experts take the view that the shuttle, plagued by problems from the start, is still a problem child. In the latest, ninth flight, the liftoff was delayed for 2 months, first by problems with the data relay satellite, and then by faulty insulation on the nozzle of one of the booster rockets. On top of this, just 4 and 1/2 hours before Columbia's scheduled landing, first one onboard computer, then a second, quit, following which one of the guidance units failed.

On previous flights there were formidable problems with the shuttle's heat-protective tiles, power-producing fuel cells, space suits and what not. The whole project was 3 years late in getting off the ground, and there have so far been only 9 flights instead of the originally planned 60 a year.

But its; not these problems that Soviet experts consider the most important. As (Dr Sergey Grishin) points out, the main idea behind the shuttle project was to achieve a payload effect, that is, substantially reduce the cost of putting a payload into orbit. But this has not been accomplished. The cost of each launching is in fact several times the $10.5 million the shuttle mission was originally planned to cost. As a result, it has not replaced the Atlas Centaur and other single-use rockets it was supposed to replace. And the West European Ariane rocket is successfully competing with it in economic terms. Nor has the shuttle a capability to service high, geostationary orbits. As a result, original optimism about a universal and highly profitable shuttle has had to give way to far more sobering, modest estimate of the scope of its applications.

Dr Grishin also has grave doubts about the environmental impact of the shuttle, since its solid-fuel boosters are highly polluting. They could cause toxic contamination of clouds, trigger acid rains, produce unpredictable changes in weather patterns, and even affect the Earth's ozone layer, which protects the human race from the deadly untraviolet radiation of the sun. Soviet experts take the view that many of these shuttle faults are the result of pressure from the Pentagon, to get the shuttle off the ground as soon as possible, whatever may be its ecological side effects and other shortcomings. This is confirmed by the program of the shuttle missions to date.

Flight four, for example, was so secret that nothing at all was revealed about the problems it encountered, although it's know that these were quite formidable. All this is part of the Star Wars fever that appears to have gripped Washington, and in which the shuttle is the centerpiece of the administration's militaristic ambitions on space, which are a threat to the very future of mankind.

U.S.-USSR SYMPOSIUM HELD ON NUCLEAR WAR RESULTS

PM091638 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "The Peoples Say 'No to U.S. Missiles!'"]

[Text] Washington -- A symposium of Soviet and U.S. scientists devoted to analyzing the catastrophic ecological and medical consequences of nuclear war has opened here. The USSR delegation is headed by Academician Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences and chairman of the Committee of Soviet Scientists in Defense of Peace and Against the Threat of Nuclear War.

This forum, which is a continuation of the dialogue between representatives of the two countries' scientific circles, reflects their growing concern at the increasing danger of the emergence of nuclear war to which the Reagan administration's militarist course is leading.

Pointing out the importance of such meetings, prominent U.S. politician Senator E. Kennedy, one of the organizers of the symposium, gave an interview to your TASS correspondent in which he drew attention to the need to "take the most urgent measures" to curb the nuclear arms race.

The participants in the symposium formed the same opinion during the discussion at a preliminary meeting held in the U.S. Congress on the eve of the opening of the forum.

"Scientists must do everything possible to save our beautiful planet for future generations," L. Thomas, a prominent representative of America's scientific circles, said. "Scientists throughout the world now have no task more important than disseminating current knowledge about the frightening consequences of nuclear conflict," Ye.P. Velikhov, leader of the Soviet delegation, stated. It is incumbent on us to convince everyone that nuclear war is impermissible.

GRAMOV LEADS USSR OLYMPIC GROUP ON U.S. VISIT

PM091636 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Discrimination Against Soviet Journalist"]

[Text] Los Angeles, 8 Dec -- The visit to Los Angeles of a Soviet delegation headed by M.V. Gramov, chairman of the USSR Sports Committee and of the USSR National Olympic Committee, has ended. Talks were held with leaders of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee on questions concerning preparations for next year's Summer Olympics.

During a press conference held 7 December at the request of representatives of the U.S. press, the head of the Soviet delegation noted that the visit had been useful. It had been a working visit and had made it possible to discuss a whole string of questions. M.V. Gramov informed the journalists of the Soviet delegation's opinion that a number of problems, in particular transport, technical supply, and accommodation facilities for Soviet sportsmen still remain to be solved.

The TASS correspondent only became cognizant of the contents of the delegation leader's meeting with the journalists after the event since he was excluded from the press conference as a result of blatant arbitrariness by the U.S. authorities.

U.S. MILITARY BASES 'THREAT TO PEACE', USSR

PM121253 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S. Gorshkov, twice Hero of the Soviet Union: "Bases for Aggression"]

[Text] In the modern world two foreign policy lines, two different approaches to the resolution of urgent problems stand out more clearly than ever before: one is aimed at preserving and strengthening peace, the other at undermining its foundations. The Soviet state adheres to the former, the United States to the latter. "The American military presence thousands of kilometers from U.S. territory is being expanded on all kinds of farfetched pretexts," the 28 September statement by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, points out. "Bridgeheads are being created for direct interference, using armed force, in other states' affairs...As a result tension has increased in all parts of the world -- Europe, Asia, Africa, the Near East, Central America."

The forces of international imperialism are openly following a course of spurring on the arms race and pursuing a policy of threats and interference in the affairs of other states and of suppressing the liberation struggle. The present course of U.S. militarist circles, which is based on the strategy of "direct confrontation" with the Soviet Union, is particularly dangerous.

A strong navy is regarded as a tool for achieving these objectives. It is used in nearly all local conflicts. Wherever progressive movements emerge that are not to the White House's liking, American ships and marines appear. Clear examples of this are the aggressive U.S. actions in Lebanon and Central America.

The Pentagon's ambitions are manifested most clearly in plans for building up naval armaments. As is known, the Reagan administration has set the task of securing "substantial superiority" over the Soviet Navy. To this end it is planned to build 150 new combat ships in the main classes by the end of this decade, bringing their total numbers up to 600. The large-scale buildup of the Navy is regarded as a means of implementing the Pentagon's ocean strategy. The essence of this strategy is to gradually transform the Navy into one of the most important instruments of U.S. foreign policy. "Superiority at sea," the U.S. President stated is the ceremony to commission the battleship "New Jersey," "is a necessity for us. We must be able to control the airspace, the surface of the sea, and its depths, so as to ensure access to all the world's oceans."

By building up its naval might Washington seeks to establish its dominant role in all the "vitally important" regions of the world ocean. These include practically the entire navigated area. The attainment of these hegemonist goals is considered inconceivable without the creation of a so-called "forward basing" system, that is, a network of military bases in parts of the world remote from the United States.

The present-day U.S. "base policy," which is a highly important component of its expansionist foreign policy course, is founded on the desire not only to retain existing bases, but to acquire more and more new ones and to encircle the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries with them. The American budget for 1984 provides for the appropriation of billions of dollars by 1988 for the construction of new bases and other military facilities and for increasing the number of aircraft, ground-based cruise missiles, armaments, and technical resources.

Since World War II the United States, taking on the role of international gendarme, has created a global system of military purpose bases. The Pentagon now has more than 1,500 military bases and sites in 32 states, on which more than 7,000 items of nuclear munitions are kept in Europe alone. The United States and the other NATO countries already have a sufficient quantity of resources in West Europe to deliver more than 3,000 nuclear charges simultaneously to targets on the Soviet Union's territory. The United States keeps several thousand items of nuclear munitions on its bases, dumps, and ships in the Far East and Southeast Asia. Nearly half of the U.S. tactical aviation and a large proportion of the U.S. Navy's ships are deployed at overseas military bases. They have a permanent contingent of more than half a million servicemen. The siting of American medium-range nuclear missiles that has now begun in a number of European countries creates a direct threat to the Soviet Union. These missiles are in relation to the USSR, in effect strategic missiles, but with a considerably shorter flight time to the targets on which they are trained.

The movement of U.S. troops and naval forces to forward positions pursues just one goal -- that of threatening the Soviet Union and our allies. Ruling circles in the United States hope to stage a "reply of history" and squeeze out socialism. The advocates of the "policy of strength" in special hopes for achieving this goal on their military bases scattered all over the globe.

In the west the chain of American bases runs through Norway, Iceland, Britain, the FRG, Spain, Italy, Greece, Turkey, and Israel. In the east the system of strong points is made up of numerous U.S. bases in Japan and South Korea, on Okinawa Island, and in the Philippines and Thailand. To the south, this encirclement is completed by the American bases on Australia, and South Africa, on Diego Garcia atoll, and in the Persian Gulf.

American generals and their colleagues in NATO headquarters display constantly increasing interest in northern Europe, which is regarded as the region from which it is most convenient to inflict strikes using ground-based missiles, aviation, and naval forces against the territory of the Soviet Union, Poland, and the GDR.

As is known, Norway and Denmark originally made their NATO membership conditional on the nondeployment of foreign troops and military bases on their territory. For a time the bloc leadership tolerated this policy. But now the United States and NATO are trying to undermine it or at least bypass it. This desire is manifested particularly clearly in relation to Norway, which borders directly on us in the north. Existing airfields and naval bases on Norwegian soil are being extended and new ones are being built. More than 20 airfields are actively used by the Air Forces of the United States, Britain, and other NATO countries. More than 10 naval bases located in the Norwegian fjords are used by the American and British services to provide backup for patrols by missile-carrying submarines and for other measures connected with the military activity of the NATO navies in the Norwegian Sea. Here too the North Atlantic bloc leadership plans to deploy the main forces of the NATO strike fleet in the Atlantic. Large dumps of heavy armaments, munitions, and transport facilities are being created in central Norway for the American Marines.

There are corresponding plans in relation to the use of shipping forces. "Our strategy," U.S. Secretary of the Navy J. Lehman stated not long ago, "is to move our strong points forward, and for this strategy to success we must dominate the Norwegian Sea."

In numerous public statements, including those made during his recent visit to Norway in September, he has repeatedly pointed to the need for the United States to gain superiority in the North Atlantic and "complete control" of the Norwegian Sea.

The U.S. and NATO leadership is implementing similar measures in Denmark. According to existing NATO plans, in a "crisis situation" 40,000 British servicemen as well as 7 air squadrons from the United States and Britain will be sent to Denmark. The Atlanticist strategists have repeatedly stressed Denmark's key significance in the Baltic straits zone, which links continental Europe and Scandinavia, the Atlantic and the Baltic Sea. They persistently demand that the Danish Government improve the naval and air bases intended for the reception of troops from other bloc countries.

Iceland's territory is also actively used by the U.S. and NATO military command. The biggest American base in Europe has been created on the island, at Keflavik, where more than 3,000 U.S. Air Force and Navy servicemen are stationed. In order to give this air grouping greater strike power it has been decided to double the number of E-3A AWACS planes already based in Iceland, and to replace the F-4 fighters which are there with the more sophisticated, up-to-date F-15's. A submarine observation center using the American SOSUS sonar surveillances system is also sited on the island.

The American Armed Forces basing system in the British Isles, including the missile-carrying submarine base at Holy Loch, continues to be expanded. With the fulfillment of the military projects provided for in the U.S. military budget, the total number of American military bases and other facilities in Britain will exceed 110. If bases, ranges, and military hardware dumps used jointly by the United States and Britain are also counted, the number will be more than 160.

On NATO's south flank, in the Mediterranean basin, the United States has 17 naval and 7 air bases, as well as a large number of other important facilities that are widely used as an instrument of aggression and direct military pressure on the region's countries.

Great U.S. activeness has been observed in the Far East recently. In recent years the Pentagon has created and sited more than 300 military facilities there, including 12 major naval bases and 12 air bases in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. Using these, the Pentagon has carried out a series of major measures in Far Eastern waters involving aircraft carrier and marine landing forces. Carrier-borne aircraft and the Marines have intensively rehearsed offensive operations on the approaches to Kamchatka, the Kuril Islands, Sakhalin Island and the Sea of Japan. The U.S. naval activity thousands of miles from its own territory and in close proximity to Soviet shores indicates the U.S. desire to implement its aggressive designs.

Japan is increasingly apparently the number one U.S. partner in the Far East. Its new government recently took on a number of commitments in the military sphere. These include the "defense" of naval communications within a 1,000-mile radius of the Japanese archipelago and the readiness to block the "three international straits adjacent to Japan." Washington managed to obtain Japan's consent to the deployment at the Misawa Air Base in the north of Honshu Island of 48 F-16 fighter-bombers capable of delivering nuclear weapons over a distance of more than 1,000 km, this is, to the Soviet Union's cities in the Far East. U.S. military circles makes no bones about saying that "these planes are intended for offensive operations against Soviet bases in Maritime Kray and on Sakhalin Island."

The Americans have some 40 bases in South Korea, where a 40,000-strong U.S. Armed Forces expeditionary corps is stationed. Its presence creates a direct threat to the DPRK.

Major U.S. air and naval bases are located in the Philippines. They were widely used in the period of the American military's aggression in Vietnam. Old bases are being extended and new ones built on the islands of Micronesia. The Pacific atolls of Bikini, Eniwetok, and Kwajalein have been turned into firing ranges for testing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles. It is planned to build new naval and air bases and nuclear and chemical weapons dumps on the Mariana and Caroline Islands. Against the will of the indigenous population of Micronesia, the Reagan administration is seeking, by means of political machinations, to ensure the conditions for the unhindered use of this island territory for strategic purposes in future.

In order to extend its military presence in Southeast Asia, the United States is making tremendous efforts to further penetrate the ASEAN countries, which include -- In addition to the Philippines -- Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore. The United States is urging them toward militarization and encouraging the expansion of such avenues of cooperation within ASEAN as the coordination of military plans, the practical rehearsal of collaboration between armed forces, and the standarization of arms and combat hardware.

The Indian Ocean -- particularly the region of the Persian Gulf and the Horn of Africa -- has in recent years been turned into a dangerous seat of international tension. The Soviet state, true to its peace-loving policy, conducted talks with the United States on making the Indian Ocean a peace zone. But the Americans unilaterally broke them off and began to pursue an open policy of strengthening their military presence there. Several dozen American warships, including one or two aircraft carrier task forces, are virtually permanently present in the northern part of the Arabian Sea. B-52 strategic bombers carry out flights over the ocean area from Australian territory.

The American Armed Forces' actions in the Indian Ocean are based on a wide network of bases and strong points in Kenya, Somalia, Saudi Arabia and Oman, Pakistan, and Egypt. The Pentagon's main base in the region is still Diego Garcia Island, where runways for strategic bombers and port facilities for servicing warships up to and including aircraft carriers are being built. Large supply ships are also assigned here, which have on board everything needed to provide backup for combat actions by a brigade of 12,000 Marines. Thus the U.S. "base strategy" in the Indian Ocean is aimed at creating a continuous chain of military bases stretching from the east coast of Africa to Australia.

That is by no means a full picture of the American military bases on foreign territory. It shows convincingly from where the threat to peace and international security really emanates. So much for the U.S. and NATO propaganda apparatus' assertions about the "Soviet threat." The Soviet Union has never threatened anyone. Its Armed Forces and their integral component the Navy are the instrument of a peace-loving policy, a policy of cutting short imperialism's aggressive aspirations, deterring it from military adventures, and resolutely opposing threats to the peoples' security.

'FUTILE' U.S. 'SCHEMES' IN W. EUROPE, ASIA HIT

PM121314 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 p 3

[International observer M. Nepesov article: "Washington's Missiles and Asia"]

[Text] It is clear to everyone, of course, that the new U.S. nuclear missiles now being deployed in Western Europe are intended to deliver a so-called "disabling" first strike against Soviet territory. It is also clear that whatever happens, retribution inevitably will follow.

At the same time -- and this was also stressed at the recent press conference in Moscow -- the Pershing II missiles deployed in Europe are by no means aimed solely at the socialist countries. They are capable of reaching the Mediterranean and the Near East. And this means that by deploying its new missiles in Europe the current U.S. Administration will also have its nuclear sights set on parts of Asia such as the Persian Gulf zone, for example.

The Asian region has always attracted U.S. imperialism's avid gaze. Even in the 19th century the United States seized the Philippines and established colonial rule there for many years. After World War II the Americans enmeshed the continent in a dense network of military bases, deploying hundreds of thousands of soldiers there and creating a number of military-political blocs under their own aegis. They counted on using such a rein to keep the peoples of India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, and other states on the shores of the Indian Ocean in obedience and to exploit their national wealth unhindered.

The desire to maintain military-political control at all costs in various parts of Asia has repeatedly pushed U.S. ruling circles into dangerous adventures. Many Washington administrations -- from Eisenhower to Nixon -- have waged bloody and dirty wars in Korea, Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea in an attempt to implant favorable systems there by force of arms. The U.S. special services have been tirelessly waging a secret war against many countries pursuing an independent, peace-loving policy. India is one of the main targets of the CIA's intrigues in Asia.

Initially the current U.S. Administration's "Asia doctrine" envisaged "preserving the vital interests"of the U.S. monopolies by the tried and tested method of building up its military presence. The dozens of military bases already existing in Asia have been supplemented by many more Pentagon strongholds stretching from Japan and South Korea to the shores of Oman, Somalia and Kenya. A 5-year plan has been formulated for the strategic "assimilation" of the Indian Ocean on which it is planned to spend about $30 billion. Some 250,000 Marines and rangers, the backbone of the "rapid deployment forces," have been placed at the disposal of the central command. A considerable proportion of those forces are now stationed on aircraft carriers and other warships off the coasts of a number of Asian countries in the event of the emergence of "unforeseen circumstances," similar, it would seem, to those which served as the reason for the U.S. invasion of Lebanon and Grenada.

But by all accounts the present Washington administration does not intend to limit itself to the buildup of its conventional military potential in Asia. Reagan's recent visit to Japan and South Korea showed that the United States assigns to these countries the role of its nuclear bridgeheads from which it could threaten various parts of Asia with missiles and other means of delivering lethal loads. According to an allegation in THE WASHINGTON POST, which gained access to "top-secret Pentagon documents," 346 nuclear missiles have been stationed on the Pacific Island of Guam and in South Korea.

It has also been decided to equip U.S. Lafayette-class nuclear submarines with cruise missiles armed with nuclear warheads. In the opinion of political observers in Asia, such submarines make systematic stops in the Indian Ocean, although Washington prefers to keep quiet about their movements. Nevertheless it is well known that these submarines, which have an autonomy capability of up to 60 days, have been spending a considerable amount of time in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. One can understand the grave concern of the Indian newspaper TELEGRAPH which wrote that any of these submarines is "capable of hitting a target 1,000 miles away with high yield nuclear missiles. Although Delhi is in the heart of the country," the newspaper stresses, "it is a target within the range of such missiles."

As we can see, the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe and the Reagan administration's course toward the accelerated creation of nuclear arsenals in Asia are two sides of the same coin. This is how Washington proposes achieving military superiority in order to dictate its will to other peoples and states. However, only adventurists and suicides can gamble on such futile schemes nowadays.

PAKISTAN STEPS UP 'ESPIONAGE' AGAINST INDIA

LD121442 Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 12 TASS -- A Pakistani submarine has appeared in direct proximity of one of India's biggest oil deposits -- "Bombay High", on the continental shelf off the western coast of the country.

As is reported by the newspaper TELEGRAPH, when the submarine was sighted, measures were taken to beef up the squadron of Indian warships patrolling that strategic area. Observers link the appearance of the submarine with Pakistan's overall stepped-up espionage and subversive activities against India. According to the local press, agents of Pakistani special services have lately been more frequently sent to the frontier Indian states of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and Gujarat. Indian security forces rendered harmless 12 espionage groups in Jammu and Kashmir alone during this year. Weapons of American make, radio transmitters and various intelligence documents were confiscated from those arrested.

ARKHIPOV MEETS WITH INDIA'S SINGH, GANDHI

PM121519 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Greetings"]

[Text] Delhi, 9 Dec -- Indian President Zail Singh received I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, head of the Soviet delegation to the eighth session of the Soviet-Indian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation.

I.V. Arkhipov conveyed to Zail Singh warm greetings and best wishes from Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Zail Singh expressed gratitude and in turn asked that very sincere sentiments and best wishes be conveyed to Yu.V. Andropov. The Indian president gave a very high appraisal of the level of Indian-Soviet relations and mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries. India advocates the further development and deepening of cooperation with the USSR, he stressed.

The president assessed highly the Soviet state's peace-loving foreign policy that is permeated with the desire to protect the world against the threat of thermonuclear war.

The head of the Soviet delegation was also received by Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. I.V. Arkhipov conveyed to I. Gandhi greetings and best wishes from Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and from N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

I. Gandhi thanked him for the good wishes and in her turn asked him to convey her warmest sentiments to the Soviet leaders. She assessed Indian-Soviet relations highly and stressed the importance of the work of the Soviet-Indian Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation.

The prime minister said that she shares the USSR leadership's concern over the dangerous situation that has emerged in the world, and expressed the hope that measures will be adopted to lessen international tension. Our countries' peoples have a vital interest in peace, I. Gandhi stressed.

I.V. Arkhipov also had a meeting and a friendly talk with Rajiv Gandhi, general secretary of the all-India committee of the ruling party, the Indian National Congress (Indira).

AFGHANISTAN HITS 'PIRATIC' U.S. MIDEAST ACTIONS

LD121402 Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Kabul December 12 TASS -- Washington has come over to open military pressure on those who oppose Israel's and U.S. expansionism in the Middle East, runs a statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which was issued in connection with the bombings by American war planes of positions of the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon. Resorting to the policy of strength and intimidation, the United States and Israel seek to subordinate Arab countries of the Middle East to their will. The way of imposing separate deals with Israel upon Arabs has been chosen for the purpose. Lebanon has fallen yet another victim to that policy, it noted in the statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The actions of the United States and Israel in the Middle East imperil not only independence and territorial integrity of Syria and Lebanon, but also peace in the region and the whole world.

The U.S. piratic actions, the statement stresses, run counter to the U.N. Charter, the Security Council's decisions on Lebanon and the generally recognized norms of international relations. The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan firmly denounces U.S. aggressive actions against Syria and other Arab countries and pledges Afghanistan's solidarity with the peoples of those states.

ALIYEV, SRV'S TRAN QUYNH DISCUSS JOINT RELATIONS

PM121443 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk in The Kremlin"]

[Text] On 9 December G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Tran Quynh, deputy chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, who is heading the Vietnamese delegation to the ninth session of the Soviet-Vietnamese intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, in the Kremlin. Questions of the development of Soviet-Vietnamese relations were examined.

Taking part in the talk, which passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere, was N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Dinh Nho Liem, SRV ambassador to the USSR, was present at the talk.

USTINOV LEAVES SOFIA, ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

PM121209 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Return to Moscow"]

[Text] Sofia, 10 Dec -- The Soviet military delegation headed by Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, left Sofia today. It was in Bulgaria on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the BCP Central Committee, T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, and Army General D. Dzhurov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Bulgarian minister of national defense.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by D. Dzhurov; Ch. Aleksandrov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee and first secretary of the Sofia City BCP Committee; Colonel General V. Palin, chief of the BCP Central Committee's military section; and other officials. USSR Ambassador to Bulgaria L.I. Grekov was among those who saw them off.

In Moscow the delegation was welcomed by V.V. Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom; Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chief of the Armed Forces' General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of Warsaw Pact member states; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General G.K. Tsinev, first deputy chairman of the USSR KGB; USSR deputy defense ministers -- Chief Marshal of Artillery V.F. Tolubko, Marshal of the Soviet Union V.I. Petrov, Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurokotkin, Marshal of Engineer troops N.F. Shestopalov, Army General I.N. Shkadov; Army General P.G. Lushev; and other military leaders.

Bulgarian Ambassador to the USSR D. Zhulev was among the welcoming party.

EASTERN ALLIES BACK SOVIET MISSILE STANCE

AU111552 Moscow in Romanian to Romania 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83

[Report on December PRAVDA international reactions to "Yuriy Andropov's recent statement"]

[Text] The GDR fully supports the statement of Yuriy Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, said Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee secretary general and president of the GDR State Council, at a meeting with chairmen of parties forming the GDR National Front. In the situation created by the decision of the FRG Bundestag to deploy U.S. first strike nuclear weapons on FRG territory, the GDR party-state leader said, the cause of peace requires that the approximate strategic-military balance of forces existing between NATO and the Warsaw Pact should not be upset. Erich Honecker stressed that the Bundestag decision underscores the European treaty system, including the treaty concerning the relations between the GDR and the FRG. We, Erich Honecker stressed, will further given consistent riposte to all attacks on the sovereignty of the GDR; we will continue to strengthen our republic through all possible means, and will do everything possible to preserve peace.

The People's Republic of Poland fully endorses the decision [passage missing on tape] the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Poland in an interview for RUDE PRAVO. Promoting a policy of confrontation, the U.S. imperialists have begun implementing their adventurist plans. The United States rejected the constructive proposals of the Soviet Union and of the Warsaw Pact member-states. All responsibility for the consequences of this unwise decision falls upon the governments of the United States and of the NATO states that agreed to the deployment of the new U.S. missiles on their territory. In this dangerous situation, the People's Republic of Poland believes that the major objective of its foreign policy should be to consolidate the potential and cohesion of the Warsaw Pact member-states, which constitutes a safe guarantee for just state borders, for peace and security for our peoples. It is still possible to restore a climate of detente in international politics, Wojciech Jaruzelski emphasized. We hail the fact that the USSR is prepared to return to its proposals on the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons in Europe in case of a return to the situation that preceded the deployment of U.S. intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The Vietnamese Communist Party, Government, and people fully support the statement of the CPSU Central Committee General Secretary and President of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Yuriy Andropov, states a declaration by Pham Van Dong, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Vietnam Workers Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers, published in Hanoi. The Soviet leader, the document adds, has given the proper riposte to the aggressive intentions of the U.S. Administration and has unmasked U.S. plans to take advantage of negotations and verbal rhetoric around them to hide their intention to continue the arms race. Washington's tendency to upset the strategic-military balance of forces in Europe places mankind on the brink of a nuclear catastrophe. The measures of reply adopted by the Soviet Union are completely just, opportune, and necessary for the peace and security of the Soviet Union, of the socialist states, and of other countries.

The U.S. Administration's deployment of intermediate-range missiles in Europe, despite the aspirations for peace of the European peoples and of the entire world, and despite the good will shown by the Soviet Union and by the socialist community, constitutes a challenge not only for the European nations, but for all mankind, the declaration states. This action reveals the bellicose character of American imperialism. The U.S. measure considerably exacerbates the international situation; it is a direct threat to peace and security -- to that of the USSR and of the socialist community in the first place, but also to that of European and all other countries. Currently, the U.S. imperialists can no longer do as they please; the great forces of peace and revolution are capable of thwarting the war plans of the U.S. imperialists. Peace, the common property of all mankind, will be preserved. The declaration continues: Together with all progressive mankind the Vietnamese people resolutely condemn the U.S. policy of intensifying the arms race and of instigating war. Working together with the fraternal Lao and Kampuchean peoples, the Vietnamese people will further struggle against the hostile plans of imperialism, and will contribute to ensuring peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and to the international peace struggle.

The Government and people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] fully endorses the statement of Comrade Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the measures of reply adopted by the USSR to counteract the dangerous plans of the U.S. Administration and of international imperialism, states a statement of the Lao Government published in Vientiane. The deployment of U.S. intermediate-range missiles on the territory of West European countries destroys the military balance of power in Europe adds the declaration. Consequently, the danger of nuclear catastrophe has increased, a castrophe with an inforeseeable outcome.

The United States has consistently blocked progress at the Geneva negotiations; it has launched libelous attacks against the Soviet Union and the members of the socialist community and continued to escalate the arms race. Forceful manifestations of Washington's aggressive militaristic policy are the [word indistinct] aggression in Grenada, and crude interference in the internal affairs of Lebanon and Nicaragua. The LPDR Government angrily condemns the U.S. bellicose actions and requests that an end be put to them.

Together with all progressive mankind the Lao people express firm support for and highly appreciate the correct position adopted by the Soviet Union and its efforts to consolidate peace and security. The major reason for the current deterioration of the international situation is the militaristic, aggressive policy of Washington and NATO, the document states. The Lao Government and people are resolutely determined to contribute to the common struggle of the forces of peace and progress against the dangerous imperialist policies, for peace and security on earth, for the happy future of all mankind, the declaration stresses.

The statement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Yuriy Andropov, is a document of an extraordinary significance and of an enormous international importance; it reflects the consistent and principled foreign policy of the CPSU and of the Soviet state, said Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Afghan People's Democratic Party [APDP] in an interview for PRAVDA and TASS. Yuriy Andropov has repeatedly stressed that to bet on victory in a nuclear war is a dangerous folly. As is well known, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries have recently advanced a number of peaceful and constructive initiatives with a view to achieving agreement on arms limitation and reduction. Unfortunately, they have all been left without reply. Moreover, ignoring the desires of West European peoples, the White House [word indistinct] have already begun deploying the new nuclear missiles in Europe. Under these conditions, the USSR was compelled to take due measures to ensure its security and the security of its allies. At the same time, the Soviet leadership has reasserted its resolute and consistent line in pursuit of agreements capable of averting nuclear catastrophe and of restoring a normal international climate.

The Democratic People's Party, the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and all Afghan people fully support the measures adopted by the Soviet Union to preserve peace. Peace is not an abstract notion for the Afghan people; for over 5 years, practically right after the April revolution, they have been forced to repel armed intervention by the forces of imperialism and regional reaction. The United States and its acolytes are waging an undeclared war against our country. The imperialists, led by the United States, oppose Afghanistan's freedom and independence; they do not wish to see social-political changes serving peace in our country. We are grateful to the fraternal Soviet people for their manysided internationalist aid. We resolutely support USSR's efforts to foil the criminal plans of the imperialists and to preserve the life of all mankind. At this decisive moment [passage indistinct] direct their thoughts to the USSR and firmly support its peaceful foreign policies.

GAEBLER-LED SED DELEGATION VISITS USSR

PM121302 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Stay"]

[Text] In accordance with the plans for interparty ties between the CPSU and the SED, a delegation of SED party workers headed by K. Gaebler, member of the SED Central Committee and chief of the SED Central Committee Propaganda Department, was in the Soviet Union 5 through 9 December where it familiarized itself with the CPSU's experience of ideological work, including work in fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum.

The delegation was received by M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. V.G. Zakharov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee propaganda section, and (V. Grabovski), GDR charge d'affaires ad interim to the USSR, took part in the warm, friendly conversation.

GDR'S STOPH SPEAKS ON USSR MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

PM121501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "GDR Volkshammer Session"]

[Text] Berlin, 9 Dec -- The eighty GDR Volkshammer session has been held here. E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and other party and state leaders of the republic participated in its work.

W. Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, delivered a report to the deputies. He declared that the struggle to prevent nuclear catastrophe and to end the arms race is the GDR's paramount foreign policy task. Together with the USSR and the other socialist community countries, it is always prepared to deal a worthy rebuff to the imperialist forces' attempts to achieve military superiority and dictate their will to the world's peoples.

It was precisely for this purpose that the decision was adopted by agreement between the GDR and USSR Governments to accelerate preparatory work for the deployment of enhanced-range operational-tactical missiles on GDR territory. This step, which was dictated by the present international situation, which has been complicated through the fault of the United States and its NATO allies, is aimed at ensuring the security and the peaceful labor of the fraternal socialist countries' peoples, W. Stoph emphasized.

Laws were adopted at the session on the country's national economic development plan and stage budget for 1984. According to the documents its rational income is to increase 4.4 percent next year in accordance with the decisions of the 10th SED congress and party Central Committee plenums, and the further enhancement of the working people's well-being remains the main direction of the SED's socioeconomic policy. To this end the violence of retail trade and the population's income will increase 2.2 percent in 1984. More than 197,000 apartments will be built or subject to capital repair in the country.

The deputies also adopted a law on the use of nuclear power.

USSR-GDR COOPERATION PANEL MEETS IN BERLIN

PM121308 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Commission's Session"]

[Text] Berlin, 10 Dec -- A routine session of the Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and the GDR has been held here.

It examined questions connected with the further intensification of all-around cooperation between the USSR and the GDR for the period through 1990.

The commission discussed the implementation of the tasks of the USSR Food Program. Agreements on cooperation were signed providing for the construction of storehouses for vegetables and fruit, the production of seed stock for fodder crops, and the modernization of enterprises for repairing and restoring agricultural equipment.

There was a discussion of problems of creating new, highly productive manufacturing processes in the chemical and metallurgical industries.

The USSR delegation was headed by L.A. Kostandov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the GDR delegation by G. Schuerer, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers.

E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received L.A. Kostandov. During their talk it was noted that the dynamic development of economic relations between the USSR and the GDR, planned for the long term, is an important contribution to the consolidation of the entire socialist community's economic might.

MSZMP PLENUM BACKS USSR MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

PM1Z1339 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Support for the USSR's Policy"]

[Text] Budapest, 9 Dec -- The MKZMP Central Committee supports and considers valid and necessary the countermeasures set forth in the statement of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the information report published here at the 7 December MSZMP Central Committee Plenum points out.

The MSZMP Central Committee, the report goes on to state, hails the stand of the Soviet leadership, which has declared that if the United States and other NATO countries show readiness to return to the situation which existed before the start of the deployment of American medium-range missiles in Europe, the Soviet Union will be prepared to do likewise.

The plenum stated that the start of the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe leads to the further intensification of international political and military tension and conflicts with the interests of all mankind. The appearance of new American nuclear means in Europe made it impossible to continue the Geneva talks on questions of limiting nuclear arms on the continent. U.S. leading circles and the governments of the NATO countries which agreed to the deployment of American missiles bear the responsibility for wrecking the talks. That step forces the socialist countries to take the necessary countermeasures in the interests of preserving the military equilibrium and their peoples' security and defending peace.

Together with the other socialist countries, Hungary invariably advocates resolving all disputed questions through negotiations, including the question of reducing weapons of mass destruction. The MSZMP Central Committee is firmly convinced that the creation of a global equilibrium of forces on the basis of the principles of equal security and at a lower level of arms will serve the cause of peace.

The report notes the successful development of Hungary's cooperation with the socialist countries and primarily with the Soviet Union. Hungary's participation in CEMA activities is of special significance in the development of foreign economic ties, it was pointed out at the plenum.

In the present complex international situation Hungary attaches tremendous significance to the socialist countries' unity and cooperation. In the recent period the expansion of Hungary's political, economic, ideological, and cultural cooperation with the socialist community countries and the strengthening of their ties with communist and workers parties have continued as a result of joint efforts. All this serves the Hungarian people's national interests and the cause of peace and social progress.

The MSZMP Central Committee condemned the U.S. military intervention against Grenada and voiced solidarity with the just struggle of the people of Nicaragua and the patriotic forces of El Salvador. The plenum participants advocated a just solution for the Cyprus question taking account of the legitimate interests of both communities of the island's population, in accordance with UN decisions. The territorial integrity, independence, and sovereignty of Lebanon must be guaranteed, and imperialist interference in its affairs must be ended.

POLISH EDITOR ON ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, DEPLOYMENT

PM1Z1724 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by Wieslaw Bek, editor in chief of TRYBUNA LUDU: under the rubric "Foreign Journalists Speak Out": "The Poles' Firm Statement"]

[Text] "I listen to the reports of the arms race in the world with ever increasing concern. The U.S. missiles in Europe and the consent by the parliaments of most NATO countries to their deployment will mean that we start to live on a powder keg...I believe we must all align ourselves with speech in favor of peace and disarmament. Jerzy Mankier, technologist at the Spolem Association in Sczcecin."

"The U.S. President's policy poses an increasing threat to peace on earth. That is attested by specific facts: the deployment of U.S. troops in Lebanon and the U.S. intervention on the small island of Grenada. But I see the start of deployment of the new nuclear arms in West Europe as the greatest danger. Jan Rafalowski, worker at a printing and graphical enterprise in Koszalin."

These two excerpts chosen from the numerous letters from working people published in TRYBUNA LUDU express the Poles' concern at the militarist policy of the present U.S. Administration, which is pushing ahead with gigantic programs for nuclear missile armament and striving to site missiles nearer to the "target." Nobody doubts what this "target" means, for Washington has declared a "crusade" against socialism. It is laboring under the delusion that it can gain military superiority and then pursue a policy of pressure and diktat. In this way it would like to recover its lost position or at least slow down the revolutionary porcesses in the world and restore the power of capitalism.

Since the beginning of Ronald Reagan's rule there has been close coordination between elements of intrigues against the forces of progress such as propaganda aggression, economic "sanctions," military provocations, and nuclear blackmail. The United States has already kindled fires in many regions of the world, and now, by siting the new missiles in West Europe, it would like to set fire to the part of the planet where world wars have started twice already this century.

The current struggle to safeguard the peoples' peace and security is essentially a class struggle whose domestic and foreign fronts are closely linked and mutually conditioned by each other. The recent Polish ordeals are irrefutable proof of that.

If the class enemy has even an insignificant social base and small forces, this can be a serious threat since the international forces of capitalism, concentrated primarily in the United States, immediately become his inspirers and paymasters.

The Polish example of 1980-1981 shows how deep the ties are between any internal antisocialist opposition and U.S. imperialism. When, at the end of the aforesaid period, socialist forces in Poland, with the help of the people's army, wrecked the counter-revolutionary plans aimed at wresting Poland from the socialist world and turning it away from the path of socialist development, the policy of the present U.S. Administration was seen in all its unsightly nakedness. Reagan, blatantly violating economic relations established over many years, made sanctions against Poland. He did not hide the aims of these bans: they were to force Poland to accept the political conditions dictated to it and to make concessions to the opposition inspired and supported by him. The direct link between antisocialist forces and imperialist policy was quite patently confirmed here yet again.

The opposition centers in our country and abroad, despite the fact that Reagan's sanctions affected the entire population, openly supported this move by Washington. For many Poles this was an instructive lesson. We again saw for ourselves that we are essentially faced with one source of threat and that this threat is imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism.

We experienced a serious test, but we defended our positions with honor. The Polish Government's note to the U.S. Government said once again: "...The true aim of the U.S. Government's policy is to deepen economic difficulties, fan social tension, and complicate efforts to create a national concensus, and implement the sociopolitical and economic reforms that have been undertaken on a wide scale in Poland. The U.S. Government's continued attempts to impose political conditions on the Polish Government are convincing confirmation of precisely that aim. The Polish Government has repeatedly stated that it rejects and will continue to reject such pressures, which, like all those undertaken before now, are doomed to failure."

U.S. imperialism is now a direct threat to all Europe's peoples. Poles, who probably have a greater moral right to pass judgment on war and peace than those on whose territory a bomb never fell during World War II, are resolutely opposed to this threat. And they support the defense measures required in the new situation that were announced in the 24 November statement by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The day this important statement was published the Polish Council of Ministers assembled and stated in an official document: "The dangerous intention to disrupt the military equilibrium has in recent days left the sphere of plans and preparations and entered the phase of implementation. A platform for a constructive dialogue and for sensible accords on disarmament that strengthen peaceful international relations was rejected by the NATO leaders. In this connection the Polish Council of Ministers views with complete understanding and support the decisions and steps by the Soviet Government announced in Yu.V. Andropov's statement, which are aimed at safeguarding the security of the USSR and all the socialist community countries."

The Polish Council of Ministers deemed these steps to be necessary and consonant with the interests of People's Poland.

That is what the Poles think. Let us turn once more to readers' statements published on the pages of TRYBUNA LUDU. Here is one of them, belonging to Jan Godomin, a worker at the Stomil enterprise in Grudziadz: " he USSR'S viewpoint, contained in Yu.V. Andropov's statement, evokes the support of working people.

This statement is on our behalf alone, on behalf of Poles. It expresses concern for the fate of all humanity."

Differing views still exist in my country. But we are unanimous on the question of war and peace. Because there is now no problem more important for the whole world than that of averting the threat of nuclear war. We ardently support the Soviet initiatives aimed at preventing the siting of the new U.S. missiles in the West European countries. We wholly support the proposals contained in the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact states. They clearly define ways of reaching agreement. However, the U.S. Administration treated all the proposals with the same insolence that it shows in continuing to apply various sanctions against Poland.

Fortunately for the world's peoples, U.S. imperialism is no longer at liberty to decide their fate. There are powerful forces on the planet which are guarding peace and restraining the U.S. military-indusrrial complex' expansionism and aggressiveness.

One does not need a fertile imagination to realize in what direction the history of many states and peoples would have developed were it not for the existence of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community and were it not for the consistency with which the land of the soviets implements the Leninist peace policy, whose foundations were laid on the very first day of Soviet power by the famous decree on peace.

Therefore, despite the complexity of the current international situation and the militarist pressure on the U.S. ringleaders, nuclear war is not inevitable. Our optimism, the optimism of peoples living under socialism and of many other peoples in the world, stems from our strength and conviction that the odds in the endeavor to eliminate the threat of nuclear war are on our side. And the way to reach an agreement on maintaining military equilibrium without violating the security of any party has been repeatedly indicated by the Soviet Union in its numerous proposals. Sooner or later, as in the past, the United States will be forced to treat these initiatives with the utmost seriousness.

ZHIVKOV CABLES ANDROPOV, ARRIVES IN DELHI

LD121824 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 12 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the Bulgarian State Council left Tashkent today for Delhi. He made a stopover in Tashkent on his way to India, where he will make an official friendly visit. Todor Zhivkov and the officials accompanying him were seen off at the airport by Comrade Usmankhodzhayev, first secretary of the Uzbek CP Central Committee, and other officials.

From on board the aircraft, Comrade Zhivkov sent a telegram to Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov. The telegram says: while flying over the territory of the great Soviet country, I send you and the entire Soviet people the most hearty fraternal congratulations and sincere wishes for happiness and prosperity; and new, great successes in peaceful, creative labor for the good of the comprehansive perfecting of developed socialism under the leadership of the glorious CPSU, in the realization of Lenin's foreign policy directed toward the strengthening of unity and might of the socialist community, for the prevention of nuclear war and the safeguarding of a lasting peace, security and social progress on earth.

Todor Zhivkov arrived today in Delhi.

CHEYSSON ACCUSED OF 'KOWTOWING TO NATO'

PM121136 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS observer V. Bogachev article: "Kowtowing to NATO"]

[Text] The recent speech by French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson at the NATO Council session in Brussels demonstrated once again the contradictory nature of the Mitterrand government's public foreign policy declarations, some of which have openly been pursuing the aim of pleasing Washington while others have tried to justify to world public opinion France's unconstructive stand on problems of war and peace. This state of affairs was expressed in particular in the fact that in his speech Cheysson first called the United States "France's main ally" and then, clearly not noticing the discrepancy, classed France among "third states."

Kowtowing to NATO, the French minister attributed to the Soviet Union adherence to the concept of possible victory in a nuclear war, even though, as is well known, it was the USSR which assumed a commitment not to be first to use nuclear weapons. It is also well known that NATO's "flexible response" doctrine envisages the first use of nuclear weapons in the initial stages of any conflict in Europe.

Deliberately ignoring the USSR's clear and explicit proposal on a two-thirds reduction of NATO and Warsaw Pact medium-range nuclear systems in Europe to the point of complete equality in terms of missiles, aircraft, and nuclear charges carried, Cheysson asserted that the Soviet Union refuses to take into account the "necessary balance of forces." Cheysson illustrated his absurd claim by saying that the correlation of forces between the USSR and France is in the ratio 100:1. At the same time the minister was unwilling for some reason to recall that the correlations in numbers of medium-range nuclear missiles between France and Bulgaria is 98 to zero.

In the French minister's words, the "forces of third states" (by which he clearly had NATO members Britain and France in mind) "exist not as a counterweight to the Soviet SS-20's but to counter the overall threat." Clearly, military specialists the world over will long be left guessing at what Claude Cheysson actually did have in mind. Is this not a return by France to the "multidirectional defense" policy?

However, Cheysson is hardly about to confirm Paris' loyalty to General de Gaulle's military-political concepts.

It is more likely that he simply overdid it, or was confused.

FRENCH BUSINESSMEN SEEN PROMOTING MILITARISM

PM121516 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 First Edition p 3

[Ernst Genri article under the rubric "Behind the Events": "What Game Are the Rothschilds Playing?"]

[Summary] France, which left NATO under the conservative De Gaulle regime, is now "clearly moving toward" it again under Mitterrand's Socialist government. The French military-industrial complex is responsible for this change in French policy, and it is an "indisputable fact" that banking concerns such as the Rothschilds are involved.

The Rothschilds, along with established arms manufacturers and other banking groups, have had close links with high government officials and with the French atomic energy agency, which has been involved in the production of explosives for the French hydrogen bomb. French concerns have joined with British and FRG concerns to produce tactical missiles. Conservative leaders such as J. Chiarac support "not only the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe but also West German access to nuclear weapons" -- which calls to mind the spirit of Munich. Although the fate for France of involvement in a nuclear war launched by the United States and NATO is obvious, French business concerns are clearly continuing to influence the government's policy toward "Atlanticism."

"Something else is equally clear: There are those working behind the scenes with them who think of nothing but the creation of the kind of reactionary regime that has not been seen in France since the war. This is where domestic policy merges with foreign policy!

"All honest Europeans are hoping that this time, too, the French people will prevail over those who are preventing them from living in peace. After all, as Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's statement says, 'we are even now living in a very fragile world.'"

FITERMAN TALKS WITH GROMYKO, ALIYEV DETAILED

PM121114 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Cooperation"]

[Text] G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received French Transport Minister C. Fiterman 9 December in the Kremlin.

During the conversation, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, they confirmed the desire to further develop scientific, technical, trade, and economic cooperation on the basis of mutual advantage and respect for each other's interests. They discussed certain long-term questions of expanding such cooperation in the sphere of transport and industry.

The conversation was attended by N.S. Konarev, minister of railways, I.D. Sosnov, minister of transport construction, D.M. Gvishiani, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, and also French Ambassador to the USSR C. Arnaud.

The same day A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, received C. Fiterman.

During the conversation, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, both sides advocated the progressive [postupatelnyy] development of relations between the Soviet Union and France, which corresponds to the long-term interests of the peoples of both states.

A.A. Gromyko stressed that the international situation, which has seriously deteriorated recently, makes contacts and cooperation between the USSR and France even more necessary in the interests of restoring international relations to the normal channel of strengthening security in Europe and beyond its borders.

For his part, C. Fiterman confirmed that France favors cooperation with the Soviet Union in various spheres and peaceful relations between states.

A.A. Gromyko and C. Fiterman exchanged letters on the prolongation of the term of the agreement between the Governments of the USSR and France on cooperation in the transport sphere for another 5-year period. They voiced confidence that the efficient fulfillment of this agreement will promote the extension of mutually advantageous scientific, technical, trade, and economic exchanges to new spheres.

There was a conversation between N. S. Patolichev, USSR minister of foreign trade, and C. Fiterman. They discussed questions of developing trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

C. Fiterman expressed complete satisfaction with the results of his visit to the Soviet Union at a press conference for Soviet and foreign correspondents at the French Embassy in Moscow. All the conversations, he said, were held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere. In the complex conditions of the international situation, both sides expressed the desire to expand cooperation.

In renewing the agreement on cooperation in the transport sphere, the minister continued, the two countries resolved to develop it more specifically. It was deemed expedient to coordinate scientific and technical links with economic and industrial cooperation, and to do this on a long-term basis. Some avenues for business contacts were defined. Primarily this applies to railroad and subway transport.

All this, the visitor stressed, coincides with the elaboration of the next 5-year plan for the Soviet Union's economic development.

Sharing his impressions of his visit to the Soviet Union, he noted the high quality of machinery and equipment on Soviet railroads and expressed confidence in the continuation of the traditional friendly links between the two countries' railroad workers.

The exchange of experience, technologies, and information in the transport sphere, the minister said, can help the further development of various kinds of transport in both countries.

In conclusion, C. Fiterman expressed his thanks for the warmth and hospitality shown him on Soviet soil.

FRANCE TO WITHDRAW FROM NAMIBIA CONTACT GROUP

LD081047 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] Paris December 8 TASS -- French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson has announced his country's decision to suspend its participation in a so-called "contact group". Speaking in the National Assembly, he declared that the "contact group" has proved unable to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it and that its work has facilitated the solution of the Namibian problem in no way.

The "contact group", set up in 1978, comprises the United States, Britain, West Germany, Canada and France. As was claimed by Western powers, its aim was to facilitate an early solution to the Namibian problem. But it has not only failed to ensure an early granting of independence to Namibia, it has also slowed down and is slowing down efforts to this end.

U.S. ECONOMIC POLICY SEEN UNDERMINING EEC

LD121657 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 12 TASS -- TASS news analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

The Athens session of the European Council of the Communities, just as the talks of the U.S. delegation led by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz with a delegatiopn of the commission of the European Communities headed by its president Gaston Thorn confirmed the existence of profound economic contradictions that refute Washington's assertions about so-called "Atlantic Solidarity".

The differences comprise every sphere -- from the financial sphere to that of foreign trade. It is realised in the West European capitals that the United States is waging a veritable "economic war" against Western Europe, striving to undermine its competitiveness, to plunge it deeper in the economic difficulties. A heavy blow on the metallurgical industry of the Common Market which is gripped by crisis was dealt by the curbs on the imports from Western Europe of special grade steel and products of it introduced by the White House this year. Meanwhile U.S. monopolies are demanding that fresh touch measures be adopted against their rivals.

Reagan's administration seeks to protect the U.S. domestic market against imported foreign automobiles, textiles at the expense of Western Europeans. The United States penetrates ever wider West European markets of farm produce and other products. And, finally, Washington's policy of increasing the bank rate and appreciating the dollar rate destabilizes the financial system of Western Europe, leads to the pumping the capital from Europe to the United States, to the increase of Europe's trade deficits.

This happens at a time when Western Europe is faced with the task of modernizing its policy in order to hold its own in the competition with the United States and Japan, the task of overcoming the stagnation of its industry. But where can the finances be found for this?

This explains the acute contradictions in the EEC around the budget of the Common Market in general and the agricultural budget in particular, the differences that have led to the deadlock in Athens. This also explains the increased criticism in Western Europe of the treacherous economic policy of the Reagan administration.

Even Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who is such a loyal supporter of the United States accused the USA that by its huge deficits of the budget and the high bank rates it deprives Western Europe of the necessary investments since capital flows to the United States. And former Chancellor of the FRG Helmut Schmidt came out for the establishment of control over the movement of capital until the deficit of the U.S. budget is cut. Undoubtedly, one of the aims of the anti-American pronouncements in London and Bonn is to lessen the negative reaction of the public of those countries on the subservient following of the British and FRG Governments in the United States wake in the question of the deployment of U.S. first-strike missiles on their territories. London and Bonn are as if demanding from Washington a pay for their subservience. The working people of those countries are being prepared to new privations. But these pronouncements also reflect the bleak realities of the economic course of the Reagan administration deleterious for Western Europe. The flow of tens of billions of dollars to the United States at the expense of which the gaps in the U.S. budget are being patched up also played a considerable role in the fact that the economy of the Common Market was marking time this year, that the army of the unemployed in the EEC countries rose to 12 million.

But Washington is not going to ease its grip. Pronouncements of its official representatives made in recent days show that Washington is not going to change its economic policy.

FRG REACTIONS TO MISSILE DEPLOYMENT CITED

'Peace Champions' Protest

LD121949 Moscow TASS in English 1803 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Bonn December 12 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vitaliy Vinogradov reports:

Today the peace champions of the FRG are holding a national day of protest against the conversion of their country into a launching site for U.S. "Pershing-2" and cruise missiles. Today's activities in the FRG bring to an end the international week of action against the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear-missile weapons in Western Europe.

Today's actions culminated in numerous demonstrations in the areas of U.S. military bases in Mutlangen, to where the first "Pershing-2" missiles have already been brought, and in Hausen, where components of U.S. missiles are being assembled.

Taking part in protest demonstrations are people of various professions, age, and political convictions. Among them are prominent public and political figures of the FRG, scientists, publicists, and cultural figures. The will of the fighters for peace, who gathered in Mutlangen and Hausen, has not been broken by either police water jets and rubber truncheons, or numerous arrests of demonstrators by police.

The peace champions, having formed a file, lighted 10,000 torches tonight along the motor road between Dortmund and Duisburg.

Today demonstrations and meetings of protest against deployment of U.S. missiles in the FRG took place in Bonn, Kiel, Hannover, Bremen, Hamburg, Nuremberg, Munich and in many other cities.

New and new sections of the FRG's population join in the anti-missile movement. The weekly DEUTSCHE VOLKSZEITUNG-TAT reports the setting up of an "employers against rearmament" organization, Klaus Meller, a factory owner from Hiessen, one of the initiators of the organization, has stressed that the organization already includes more than 100 businessmen from many parts of the FRG.

Today thousands of students of Bonn University gathered outside the building of the Ministry of Education and Science to voice a protest against the curtailment of state appropriations for the needs of higher school and against the increase in spending on the production of newest armaments. "We demand that conditions be created for studies, and not for the nuclear-missile arms race," they stated.

Brandt: Deployment 'Wrong'

LD122333 Moscow TASS in English 2133 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Prague, December 12 TASS -- Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SDPG), has described as "wrong" the decision to deploy new U.S. nuclear missiles in the FRG. In an interview with Czechoslovak Radio he pointed out that the SDPG will make efforts to stop and reverse as soon as possible the started deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in the FRG. The leader of the West German Social Democrats emphasized that a new spiral of the arms race, the end of which no one will venture to foretell, has begun with the deployment of the weapons in Western Europe.

Mr Brandt said that every chance, even the slightest one, should be used to prevent a further dangerous development. Irrespective of what social system we live in and what military alliance we belong to, a prospect for cooperation must exist in Europe. As far as possible the SDPG will exert influence on the Government of the FRG and will struggle for detente and disarmament. This meets our national interests and the interests of Europe, he stated.

PONOMAREV RECEIVES VISITING ITALIAN CP DELEGATES

LD102204 Moscow TASS in English 2122 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 11 TASS -- An Italian Communist Party delegation on international and economic issues led by member of the party executive Gerardo Chiaromonte stayed in the Soviet Union from December 4 to 11.

A conversation was held between Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, and members of the Italian Communist Party Executive Gerardo Chiaromonte and Giovanni Cervetti. During the conversation the sides discussed topical issues of actions for lessening tension and strengthening peace and international security.

During the stay in Moscow the delegation had a conversation at the economic department of the CPSU Central Committee with Boris Gostev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy head of the CPSU CC Economic Department. The delegation also visited the Soviet state planning committee and research institutes of the Soviet Academy of Sciences Some members of the delegation travelled to the Ukraine where they had conversations at the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine, visited a computer-making factory and met with workers.

SWEDEN'S PALME ON NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE PROPOSAL

LD101927 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Stockholm December 10 TASS -- Sweden is opposed to the deployment of new American nuclear missile weapons in Europe and insists on the reduction of the nuclear arms already stationed in the continent, Olof Palme, head of the Swedish Government, has declared.

Addressing a conference of Social Democratic and trade union peace campaigners at the People's House in Stockholm today, he expressed profound concern over the beginning of the deployment in Europe by the United States and NATO of Pershing II and cruise missiles that resulted in the disruption of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

Olof Palme said that the Swedish proposal on establishing a nuclear battlefield weapon-free zone in Central Europe is a major step towards reducing the risk of war, and this proposal meets growing support of governments and the peace-loving public. There will be no winners in a nuclear war, he said, that is why the struggle for peace, for preventing a thermonuclear catastrophe has acquired top priority. The Swedish prime minister highly assessed the Soviet Union's readiness to facilitate the proclamation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe.

BELGIAN SENATE DEMANDS DISARMAMENT 'INITIATIVES'

LD082237 Moscow TASS in English 2219 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] Brussels December 8 TASS -- TASS correspondent A. Balebonov reports:

Debates on the question of the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in Belgium have been concluded in the Senate, the upper chamber of parliament. By a majority vote the Senate has approved a resolution in which it demanded that the government take concrete initiatives in arms limitation as a whole and in the sphere of nuclear disarmament in particular. A month ago similar debates were held in the Chamber of Representatives. There too the parliamentarians reflected concern of the Belgian political circles over the arms race unleashed by ProAtlantic forces.

The debates reflect the growth of anti-war attitudes. Over 80 percent of the Belgians declare against the deployment on Belgium's territory of 48 cruise missiles that are being imposed by the Pentagon. The upsurge of the anti-missile movement has compelled the Belgian authorities to defer the adoption of the final decision of the deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear missile weapons in Belgium.

AUSTRIAN LEADERS INTERVIEWED ON DETENTE ISSUES

PM112018 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 48, Nov 83 pp 20-22

[Mikhail Fedorov article: "Austria: Vienna Stands for Detente"]

[Excerpt] "We are a small nation. There are only 7.5 billion of us, less than the population of Moscow. What can a small neutral country do in the context of the confrontation of the two giants? We are powerless. But the situation is dangerous. If a nuclear war broke out in Europe, Austria too would inevitably be incinerated. We want to live in peace and friendship with all peoples, but forces beyond our control are impelling humanity closer and closer to the brink of the abyss...."

This was the gist of what I heard from many local newsmen during my stay in Austria in late October as a member of a group of three Soviet journalists visiting that country at the invitation of the Concordia Press Club of Vienna. Some laid the blame for the present international tension equally on the United States and the Soviet Union. This was of course surprising, to put it mildly, especially since the day after our arrival in Vienna the U.S. invaded Grenada. We on our part reminded our collocutors of the past record, of the numerous peace initiatives the Soviet Union had put forward but which remained on paper owing to Washington's obstructionist, militarist and imperialist policy. This, of course, evoked discussion, at times heated discussion, but always of a friendly nature.

Excellent Relations

We were naturally interested in the views on internatinal affairs not only of journalists but of people in official positions. What the official attitude was we learned from the most authoritative source -- Federal Chancellor Dr Fred Sinowatz and Foreign Minister Erwin Lanc.

For Chancellor Sinowatz, who heads a coalition government consisting of representatives of the Socialist Party and the Freedom Party, the day was a very busy one.

In the morning there was the final session of the Socialist Party Congress, which elected the new leadership of the party. It released Bruno Kreisky, at his own request, from the post of party chairman and elected him honorary chairman. Sinowatz, who became the new party leader, delivered a programme speech. The closing of the session was followed by a press conference, immediately after which the chancellor received us, the guests of the Vienna Press Club, in a small room next to the concert hall where the session had been held.

We congratulated Chancellor Sinowatz on his election as chairman of the Socialist Party and wished him every success. We thanked him for the cordial reception given us Soviet journalists and, of course, we asked questions.

How did he view the international situation?

Very pessimistically, the chancellor replied. He spoke of the deep crisis gripping detente and of the arms race, the nuclear included. That was the main thing that worried him. Then there was the significant increase in the number of seats of war in recent years, which presented a growing threat to peace. It was this that brought the youth out into the streets in demonstrations addressed primarily to the great powers. They hoped that the dialogue between them would prove fruitful. On its part, the Austrian Government had also appealed to the two powers to come to an agreement in Geneva.

How did the chancellor assess the relations between Austria and the Soviet Union?

They were excellent, he said. Good relations between two countries with different social systems showed that an active policy of peace could be pursued even in the present circumstances. Austria, which has good relations with the countries of both East and West, was particularly gratified by the successful development of Austrian-Soviet ties in the past decade. Progress has been made in all areas -- the economy, trade, culture and sports. He was looking forward with pleasure to his visit to the Soviet Union next year, the chancellor said, and he assured us that his government was interested in the further development of relations between Austria and the Soviet Union.

Did the socialist party's coalition partner, the Freedom Party, share the chancellor's views on this score?

Dr Sinowatz reminded us that after 13 years of Social-Democratic one-party government, the Social Democrats lost the absolute majority in the National Council (the lower house of parliament) in the election of April 24 this year, receiving only 49 per cent of the seats. In the coalition formed with the Freedom Party, the Socialist Party is the leading force. In the five months of its existence the coalition had proved its worth, the chancellor said. He voiced satisfaction at the fact that one of the first foreign trips made by Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the Freedom Party Dr Norbert Steger had been to the Soviet Union, where he had successful talks on economic questions.

One of us expressed the view that in the present complex international situation the small countries might play a more active role than before. For instance, the head of the Swedish Government, Olof Palme, had issued a call for the creation of battlefield nuclear weapons. Why could Austria too not display more initiative?

Neutrality, the chancellor replied, is interpreted differently by the various neutral countries. Austria had been party to many disarmament initiatives.

It saw its task in promoting confidence-building measures and raised its voice in favor of dialogue between the great powers. Both in Helsinki and in Madrid, Austria had contributed to the achievement of definite results. Although it had not joined in the Palme initiative it believed that this initiative was a step towards strengthening confidence.

No Alternative

Foreign Minister Lanc received us on Austria's National Day, October 26. On that day in 1955 the Austrian parliament adopted a law on permanent neutrality. Our talk, which took place in the Foreign Minister's office, lasted for an hour and a half.

The minister described Austrian-Soviet relations as very good and holding out the prospect of further development. He attached particular importance to a frank exchange of views and the promotion of economic contacts with an eye to the future. Austria, therefore, welcomed the fact that the final document of the Madrid meeting called for improvement of the conditions for economic cooperation in Europe, especially between Western and Eastern Europe. "Without going into all the details of our relations," he said, "I should like to touch only upon cultural exchanges, which are very intensive and accord with the interests of both our countries. I personally, for instance, greatly enjoy the concerts of the Leningrad Symphony Orchestra, which last performed in Vienna quite recently."

He stressed that the growth of tension in the world increases the danger of war. Anyone who rejects the use of force in political conflicts must do everything to carry forward detente. The whole of Europe indeed the whole world, should be interested in and work for a policy of detente. For Austria this is particularly important in view of its geographical location, bordering as it does on two NATO countries, two countries affiliated with the Warsaw Treaty, non-aligned Yugoslavia, and neutral Switzerland and Liechtenstein. Hence it is obvious that the growth of tension is damaging to Austria and detente is beneficial, the foreign minister said. Austria's contribution to detente is beneficial, the foreign minister said. Austria's contribution to detente is consistently expressed in its policy of goodneighbourship with all the countries on which it borders, irrespective of their social and political systems or their adherence to one or another military-political group.

The minister went on to stress that in pursuing a policy of active neutrality Austria has not confined itself to this contribution to detente. Vienna did much to help with the preparations for and the successful conclusion of the all-Helsinki and all subsequent meetings and conferences. The part Austria played in the drafting of the final document of the Madrid meeting has earned universal recognition, including that of the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.

Austria will continue its help in the preparations for the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures and security and disarmament in Europe which is to open in January 1984, the minister said. It should be borne in mind that when more and more elements of tension appear in various fields, continuation of the policy of detente acquires particular significance. There is no alternative to that policy.

The talk inevitably turned to Vienna's reaction to the U.S. invasion of Grenada. Austria has always been opposed in principle to the use of force, the minister said. Therefore it sees no justification for the U.S. intervention in Grenada.

The minister chose his words carefully in answering our question about the attitude of the Austrian Government to the NATO "double-track" decision and the coming deployment in Europe of the U.S. medium-range missiles. The Austrian Government, he said, was not a party to any talks on disarmament.

Its recent appeal to the great powers and the entire international community left no doubt that Austria was opposed to any escalation of armaments in any sphere. This applied to the talks on the limitation of strategic armaments, on medium-range missiles, and on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. Moreover, Austria had declared that given the political will, it was perfectly possible to agree the basic principles as regards medium-range missiles within a relatively brief space of time and then proceed calmly to discuss the details of the relevant treaty.

The foreign minister said that in the United Nations as well Austria stands for the adoption of appropriate decisions on all issues relating to stopping the arms race. It is against the opening of new areas of arms build-up, for the reduction and checking of the arms race, especially as regards new weaponry.

TURKEY'S TURGUT OZAL ASKED TO FORM GOVERNMENT

LD071742 Moscow TASS in English 1242 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Ankara December 7 TASS -- President Kenan Evren of Turkey today asked Turgut Ozal, general chairman of the Motherland Party, to form a new government of the country. The Motherland Party had won an absolute majority of seats in Turkey's unicameral parliament in the general election one month ago.

The government headed by Turgut Ozal will be the first civilian government of Turkey since the military had come to power in the country in September 1980 when the former parliament had been dissolved and the activities of all political parties, trade unions and public organisations banned.

SOVIET-IRISH COMMISSION SESSION REPORTED

PM121521 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Weighty Contribution"]

[Text] Dublin, 9 Dec -- The seventh session of the Soviet-Irish mixed commission on economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation has finished work here.

Sean Gaynor, minister of state for foreign affairs, stated at the ceremonial signing of the session's concluding protocol that the commission continues to make a valuable contribution to the development of Soviet-Irish economic relations. The sides' regular meetings, he noted, give additional impetus to the further expansion of reciprocal trade and promote the speedy resolution of the problems and difficulties which arise. While noting with satisfaction the considerable increase in trade exchange between the two countries in the last 12 months, the Irish minister pointed to the large reserves which exist for further increasing it.

The sides reaffirmed their desire to step up joint efforts to expand stable, long-term, mutually advantageous economic, industrial, scientific, and technical ties on the basis of the 1976 agreement.

SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HITS U.S.-ISRAELI 'CONSPIRACY'

LD131016 Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus December 13 TASS -- The dangerous consequences of the strengthening of American-Israeli alliance were discussed at a meeting of the Syrian Government, which has been held here.

As a result of the new accords between Washington and Tel Aviv, the United States became a direct participant in criminal plans of Israel which seeks to establish domination of imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East, stressed at the meeting Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. The Reagan administration provides its "strategic partner" with the necessary assistance to broaden aggression and expansion against the Arabs, to perpetuate the occupation of Arab territories. The main aim of the conspiracy between the United States and Israel is the build-up of the American military presence in the region.

Al-Kasm reaffirmed that the Government of Syria would not alter the course of thwarting Washington's and Tel Aviv's anti-Arab designs, would do the utmost to defend its people and territory from external aggression.

PROGRESSIVE FRONT STRESSES SYRIAN 'UNITY'

LD121249 Moscow TASS in English 0958 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus December 12 TASS -- A meeting of the central leadership of the National Progressive Front of Syria has been held here.

Its participants approved of the country's course of opposing American-Israeli designs in the Middle East. It was emphasized that the Syrian Arab Republic would continue coming out against Tel Aviv's and Washington's aggressive plans. The meeting outlined steps aimed at ensuring stronger unity of the Syrian people, enhancing the combat might of the armed forces of the country so that the forces should be ready to repel external aggression, and also at consolidating the National Progressive Front which affiliates the ruling Arab Socialist Rennaissance Party, the Syrian Communist Party, and a number of other patriotic parties and organizations.

PDRY, SYRIAN UN DELEGATES DECRY U.S. 'TERRORISM'

LD091353 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 9 TASS -- International terrorism turned into a state policy by the Reagan administration is a tool of U.S. hegemonism aimed at establishing imperialist domination in various parts of the world.

The policy of international terrorism pursued by Washington is spearheaded against the whole of the Arab world. It poses a threat to security and sovereignty of my country, a Libyan delegate to the U.N. stressed.

The permanent representative of Syria at the U.N. D. al-Fattah described the growing U.S. involvement in Lebanon as an open manifestation of international brigandage and violence. "The invasion of Lebanon revealed the true face of the Reagan administration. The U.S. military presence in Lebanon is an implementation of its scheme to establish new bases for its Rapid Deployment Force", he pointed out. The Syrian delegate underlined that the presence of this force and of the biggest naval fleet since the Second World War was aimed at strangling freedom and independence and undermining territorial integrity of Lebanon.

The Syrian delegate mentioned the raid of U.S. warplanes on the positions of the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon as the latest outrageous example of these bandit tactics. "The Reagan administration is obsessed with the use or threat of use of force to impose U.S.-Israeli hegemony at the expense of Arab national interests", he said.

In the opinion of the permanent representative of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen A.S. al-Attal, methods of terrorism continuously used by the incumbent U.S. Administration again put the Middle East on the brink of a devastating war. Together with other Arab delegates, he stressed that Israel was invariably a U.S. partner in international brigandage. We see no difference between the repressive policy of Washington and that of Tel Aviv in the Middle East, he underlined.

FACTORS, CAUSES OF 'NEAR EAST PROBLEM' REVIEWED

LD081652 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0715 GMT 8 Dec 83

["Topical Problems of International Life" program presented by Sergey Pravdin, foreign political commentator; with international affairs journalist Igor Belyayev]

[Text] [Pravdin] Hello, comrades. In today's troubled world the Near East problem is one of the sharpest and most urgent. The words Lebanon, Near East, do not disappear from the pages of the world's press. They resound in radio and television broadcasts. Unbridled U.S. imperialism and its guard dog in the Near East -- as one Arab newspaper pointedly christened Israel a few days ago -- are continuing to tear Lebanon to pieces, threatening other Arab countries, hampering a peaceful settlement in the Near East and whipping up tension in this part of the globe, which is already explosive. Taking part in our program today is Igor Petrovich Belyayev, international affairs journalist, and we have asked him to talk in greater detail about the present situation in the Near East.

[Belyayev] Let me note the main thing: Today the Near East has become the place where countless dangers have been concentrated. They are many-sided dangers. Thus, Lebanon, which was the victim of the Israeli aggression that began on 6 June 1982, is threatened with the loss of its freedom and independence. Its territorial integrity is in danger. The southern part of this small country has been seized by an Israeli occupation corps. Lebanon's sovereignty has been trampled on. One cannot consider everything in order today if U.S. naval ships concentrated off the shores of Lebanon are firing on Lebanese towns and villages, and if American planes are bombing positions of the Syrian units belonging to the inter-Arab peace-keeping forces. All of this is evidence of the fact that this country is indeed still being torn apart.

At the end of October, 239 U.S. Marines died in Beirut as a result of an explosion at their headquarters. Literally a few hours later they blew up the headquarters of the French parachutists in Lebanon. About 60 Frenchmen died. Twenty-four hours later there was a loud explosion in the southern Lebanese town of Tyre. An Israeli headquarters was blown up and 58 officers and men of the Israeli army were killed. Allegations were made that all these explosions were the work of some Muslim fanatics, allegedly linked with Syria and Iran. There was no proof whatsoever, but in all the talk about it being essential to punish those guilty of causing the explosions you constantly hear about Syria and Iran. It seems to me that in Lebanon the United States and France, together with Israel, have started a war with the Lebanese people.

The Security Council has adopted well-known resolutions, which demand that the Israeli troops, the troops of the aggressor which has violated peace in this country, be unconditionally withdrawn from Lebanon. And so? Instead of withdrawing its soldiers Israel continues to occupy the southern part of Lebanon, while the United States, which voted for the Security Council resolutions, does not even think of forcing its strategic ally to implement these decisions of the supreme organ of the international community.

Moreover, U.S. politicians are working out tricks of different kinds to circumvent the United Nations. Soldiers belonging to the so-called multinational forces made their appearance in Lebanon last year. These were detachments from the United States, France, Italy and Britain, that is to say, NATO countries. Thus, what we have here is a coarse substitution of efforts by the West's main military and political alliance -- the North Atlantic alliance -- for international efforts to settle the Lebanese crisis.

[Pravdin] What happened in Washington, where Israeli Prime Minister Shamir, and Defense Minister Arens have just been on a visit?

[Belyayev] At first sight, it is as though there is nothing new. The strategic cooperation announced as a result of the Shamir-Reagan talks was mentioned for the first time way back in November 1981. Sharon, the Israeli defense minister, who had been to Washington, then agreed with U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger on the development of this kind of cooperation. Begin, the former Israeli prime minister, rubbed his hands with joy. It appeared to him that he had made a very clever move in binding the United States to his expansionist policy.

But on the threshold of the new -- 1982 -- year, the Israeli Knesset decided to annex the Golan Heights, part of Syrian territory seized in 1967 by Israel, which spoiled the United States' political game in the Arab world. Washington very much wanted to continue to be considered the ally of Arab countries. Reagan announced the suspension of strategic cooperation with Israel, although this measure did not stop the Israeli military, who, in practice, continued this cooperation. It seems to me that the war in Lebanon was the concentrated expression of this cooperation.

Nearly 2 years later the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel has been given a new impetus. It appears to me that it was never brought to a halt. Israel's longest war in Lebanon against the Lebanese and Palestinians, which continues to the present day, has from the very beginning been a joint U.S.-Israeli aggressive enterprise. What lies behind this conclusion? First and foremost are facts that are evidence that the United States, knowing about the war that was being prepared, which was talked about openly by the Israeli military and politicians, furnished it with everything necessary for waging it.

[Pravdin] Igor Petrovich, this war, I think, is different from all the Israeli-Arab wars that have preceded it.

[Belyayev] It is indeed the longest. Besides this there is another difference from all five previous Israeli-Arab wars. From the very first days of Israel's invasion of Lebanon it has been, so to speak, a joint action by Israel and the United States. The war had scarcely started when the United States blocked the UN Security Council. The U.S. delegation there became a positive Israeli lobby, preventing a resolution from being adopted which contained condemnation of Israel for the invasion of Lebanon, despite the fact that it was clear to the whole world that it was indeed the state of Israel that began this war with the sole aim of continuing its expansion in the Arab world. Consequently, the participation of the United States in the sixth Israeli-Arab war was evident from the very beginning. In practice this was the embodiment of U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation against Lebanese and Palestinians.

But there is yet another direction to this cooperation. I have in mind the fact that the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel is directed against the Soviet Union in the Arab world. Former Israeli Defense Minister Sharon once frankly stated that if the need arose the Israeli army would be able to operate even in Turkey and even in Pakistan, and again against the Soviet Union. He has stressed repeatedly that the Soviet Union is Israel's main enemy.

[Pravdin] But is there anything new in the development of strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel?

[Belayev] Indeed, there is something new. First of all I believe it is a question of giving concrete form to old plans. Thus, it is envisaged that Israeli territory will be used for storing U.S. arms, including neutron weapons.

And there is some new information: Tel Aviv has asked for U.S. Pershing II's to be installed in Israel. Against whom? Against the Soviet Union, primarily, of course. And, of course, against the Arabs. The U.S. generals have not hesitated to use aircraft from the ships of the U.S. armada, which is concentrated off the Lebanese shores, against the Syrian units in Lebanon that belong to the inter-Arab peace-keeping forces. Under Washington's new agreement with Tel Aviv a special joint U.S.-Israeli military committee is being created. It will be engaged in the formulation and realization of cooperation between the two countries and the plans for holding joint maneuvers. This is precisely what the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces were so short of, in the opinion of the Pentagon.

Now it is perfectly obvious that if in the opinion of the White House an extraordinary situation arises in some Arab country -- for example, if the population opposes some ruler or other or some government or other, say, under the leadership of Muslim fundamentalists -- then first of all Israelis can land in the troubled country, and only afterward can they be replaced by U.S. Marines or soldiers from the same 82nd Airborne Division, a batallion of which is now in the Sinai Peninsula. This, too, is U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation.

But the fact that the latest U.S. weapons, ammunition and even medical equipment, supplies, and hospitals can be located in Israel in good time, there was talk of this at the beginning of 1982. And of course, it is not fortuitous that it was during these very days, that is to say, following the conclusion of the Reagan-Shamir talks, that there was a burst of talk about turning Israel into the most important strategic point of the United States in the Near East.

[Pravdin] And what do you think, are there not some new elements in the military and political situation in the Near East that have arisen in connection with this turn of events?

[Belyayev] Unfortunately some new elements have appeared, and for the worse. I am sure that today one can talk about changes in the military and political situation in the region as a whole. Indeed, is not the strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel a form of terror aimed against the Arab countries? And long-term terror? In Washington they now expect Arab political figures will have to think 100 times before they call upon their compatriots to oppose the United States and Israel. The purpose of the U.S.-Israeli anti-Arab terror is to compel the Arabs to capitulate, that is, to achieve what Camp David failed to achieve. For to this day the overwhelming majority of Arab states which are members of the Arab League oppose the Camp David agreements and the Camp David policy. It seems to me only to be expected that Shamir had scarcely returned to Tel Aviv when U.S. bombers bombed the positions of Syrian units in Lebanon.

It seems to me that it is a question of the beginning of wide-scale actions against Syria by the United States. They want to remove it from the confrontation against the United States and Israel in the Near East, and at the same time to frighten all Arabs with the fate of the one defeated -- if there will be one that is defeated. Suddenly Arab politicians will be found to themselves start talking about capitulation.

Israel is now preparing to strike against Syria, in order to attempt to destroy the defense capability of this Arab country, which opposes imperialism and its gendarme in the region. For these purposes economic and military aid from Washington to Tel Aviv is soon to be increased. Shamir, as the new chief of the Israeli Government, needs it very much. The United States is thus rescuing the conservative Likud bloc, which is now in power in Israel, from inescapable collapse. I would draw particular attention to the fact that a considerable part of U.S. military aid to Israel is becoming free of any payment. It is to grow by 1.5 times. According to the canon of strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, the latter has acquired the right to produce new weapons, both within Israel itself, and by means of participating in their production on U.S. territory. Israel has made available to the United States the right to use its ports for vessels of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea.

As far as Lebanon is concerned, everything remains as it was in this country. The 17 May agreement will be the basis for a settlement of its problems, but this is an anti-Lebanese and anti-Arab agreement, which has been imposed upon that country under the muzzles of Israeli guns.

Resolutely condemning the aggressive actions of the United States and Israel in the Near East, the Soviet Union has issued a resolute warning to the aggressors. The U.S. Administration, the recent TASS statement on the situation in the Near East said, must realize that the U.S. armed interference in Lebanon and the aggressive actions of the United States against Syria constitute a serious threat to peace in the Near East, and not merely in that area.

[Pravdin] Thank you, Igor Petrovich. Our program has reached its end, esteemed comrades. Goodbye and all the best to you.

PALESTINIAN 'POLITICAL DISCORD' TERMED 'TRAGIC'

PM121413 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 49, 2 Dec 83 p 15

[Dmitriy Volskiy "Observer's View": "Palestinian Infighting"]

[Text] The cease-fire agreement in the region of the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, although its implementation has turned out to be not so easy, is of fundamental importance. Especially if you consider that it was reached through the participation of Saudi Arabia and Syria, which represent the most influential forces of the Arab world -- the oil-rich conservative monarchies and the champions of a progressive, anti-imperialist outlook.

The logic of life is what urged them to collaborate. That same political logic which in no way fits in with the fratricidal military clashes that shook North Lebanon almost throughout November. What was particularly tragic about the situation was that this time it was not Lebanese patriots and Palestinians who had crossed swords with the Israeli interventionists but Palestinian fedayeen with Palestinian fedayeen. The long-felt discord within the Palestinian movement spilled over into an armed struggle as unnatural as it was senseless.

Indeed, can the question of what means -- military or political -- are best used for opposing Israeli expansion be resolved by force? Surely the need to combine both of them is self-evident.

Yet, judging by the rival statements, the armed dispute was precisely about that. And also about whether the Palestinian movement ought to maintain its independence or collaborate with the progressive Arab states, although one is by no means at odds with the other. This is clear to all the Palestinian people's friends. Thus, at talks held at the end of November in Moscow by a PLO delegation it was stressed that the PLO must continue to be an active anti-imperialist factor; and the firmer the cohesion of all detachments of the Palestinian movement and their cooperation with the national patriotic forces of the Arab world, and primarily with Syria, which is resolutely countering the aggressor's plans, the greater its weight will be.

This cooperation is all the more necessary since the new plans of the Israeli aggressors and their U.S. patrons and allies have ceased being just plans. Israeli troops in South Lebanon are now grouped so as to be able at any moment to strike against Lebanese national patriotic military formations, the Syrian contingent of inter-Arab forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley, and, finally, Syria itself. A huge U.S. war fleet is lying off Lebanese shores ready to back up the Israeli Army.

Under these conditions the infighting in the Palestinian movement is not simply weakening its own positions but hindering the formation of a pan-Arab front to repulse the new round of aggression, which would now no longer be just Israeli but U.S.-Israeli, perhaps in a NATO framework. And the threat looms not only over the Palestinians, whose enslavement they want to perpetuate, and not even just over Lebanon and Syria. They are trying to prepare a fate for virtually the entire Arab world that differs little from that of the Palestinians. No exceptions are made even for the oil-producing states. Rather, the contrary: They would like to achieve dominance over them as a top priority. It is no accident that alongside the militarist preparations in the Mediterranean increasingly ominous signs are appearing of an intervention by the U.S. "Rapid Deployment Force" in the oil-bearing zone of the Persian Gulf. U.S. admirals are now bluntly talking about "decisive action" in this zone.

Moreover, a danger is hanging over the Near and Middle East that has not been known in all the long centuries of its history. There have been invasions, there has been colonization, but there has never been and must never be targeted on this enormous region missiles with nuclear warheads capable of destroying every living thing -- the very same Pershing II and cruise missiles that the U.S. has begun siting in West Europe. They are aimed not only at the socialist community countries but also at North Africa and the Persian Gulf. That is the "protection" under which preparations for new interventionist acts are being initiated!

In the face of such a multiple threat there must be no place for political discord, not to speak of clashes of personal ambitions, that is to say for things which for a number of historical reasons particularly characterize the Near East and have not bypassed the Palestinian movement either. One would like to hope that the Palestinians will learn a bitter but necessary lesson from the tragic events that have occurred in Tripoli. For Reagan "has his sights" not just on them, but on all the Arabs and all the peoples.

LEBANESE EVENTS SHOW U.S. 'HEGEMONIST' DESIRES

PM091645 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Glukhov "Commentator's Column": "A Strategy of Recklessness"]

[Text] Lebanon.... This word rings out today as an SOS, as a distress signal. Casting aside all decencies and flouting elementary norms of international law, American imperialism in alliance with the Israeli military has turned Lebanon into a place of bloody carnage.

U.S. aircraft bomb peaceful Lebanese cities and settlements. The guns of the giant battleship "New Jersey" stand ready to wipe from the face of the earth what remains intact after the air raids, and the Marines complete the process of destruction. Lebanon is threatened with the tragic fate of Grenada, flattened beneath the American jackboot.

While perpetrating lawlessness, Washington hypocritically discourses about peace. But who breached the peace?

Surely it was Israel, which is being supported, financed, and armed by the United States. The peace in Lebanon was broken when Israeli troops invaded that country in June last year. It can be restored only when the occupiers remove themselves from foreign soil.

The White House is displaying hyprocritical concern regarding Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. But who is it who is splitting this country? The self-same U.S. ally -- Tel Aviv. Occupying the south of Lebanon, the Israeli military is preparing to separate it from the remaining part of the country and to perpetuate the seizures of territory. Washington, in creating a U.S. occupation zone, is also having a hand in dismembering Lebanon.

The Near East conflict has hitherto been regional in character. Its just resolution is connected with the elimination of the consequences of Israeli aggression against the Arabs and the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to create their own independent state. U.S. military intervention in Near East affairs and the creation of an aggressive strategic pact between Washington and Tel Aviv are leading to a change in the situation and to new complications.

The United States is currently concentrating major military potential off the Lebanese coast. Its firepower, including its nuclear firepower, is more than sufficient to obliterate from the map of the world a considerable proportion of Near East countries.

The United States' armed intervention in Lebanon and the aggressive U.S. actions against Syria are a serious threat to peace in the Near East. This is yet further evidence of U.S. hegemonist adventurist plans.

U.S., ISRAELI ACTIONS IN LEBANON 'ESCALATE'

LD091032 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut December 9 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Bogatyrev.

The American and Israeli military, by their aggressive actions, have escalated anew tensions in Lebanon. Guns from ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet, tanks and Marine batteries, deployed around Beirut's International Airport, barbarically shelled throughout Thursday residential districts of the Lebanese capital and its southern outskirts. The U.S. contingent of the so-called "Multi-national Force" fired rockets, phosphorous, cluster and other shells on dwellings in the Palestinian refugee camp of Burj al-Barajinah, districts of Hayy as-Sullum, Al-Laylakah and the town of 'Alayh and several nearby villages, causing heavy destruction and severe fires. There are casualties among the civilian population. Early morning today, the U.S. intervention force resumed its barbarous rocket and artillery bombardment of Beirut's southern districts and suburbs. The country's national patriotic forces were compelled to return the fire.

The Tel Aviv rulers are closely coordinating their actions with the United States. Early today, they ordered Israeli troops to land in the area of the north Lebanese city of Tripoli. Thwarting the United Nations' efforts to stop armed clashes in northern Lebanon, the Zionists subjected to massive rocket and artillery bombardment from sea and air the city and its outskirts. Armed units of the national patriotic forces and the Palestinian resistance movement resolutely rebuffed the invaders and forced their ships away from the coast. However, Israeli torpedo boats and landing vessels, backed by helicopter gunships, remain in Lebanese territory waters aiming to intercept Greek ships when they will be carrying Palestinians to be evacuated from Tripoli. Simultaneously, the Israeli hawks are threatening the United Nations Organisation in a bid to make it abandon its efforts to end bloodshed in northern Lebanon.

SPEAKES SAYS U.S. IN LEBANON 'INDEFINITELY'

LD121238 Moscow TASS in English 0916 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Washington December 12 TASS -- American troops will stay in Lebanon for an indefinitely long time. This was stated on Sunday by White House representative Larry Speakes. He said that U.S. Marines, part of the so-called Multinational Force to maintain peace in Lebanon, will stay there as long as is required. No firm date was fixed for their pull-out, he said. Moreover, President Reagan seeks that no concrete date is fixed at all for their withdrawal.

SUSPECTS IN KUWAIT EXPLOSIONS ARRESTED

LD121126 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Kuwait December 12 TASS -- Six powerful explosions took place today in the morning in various districts of the capital of Kuwait and its suburbs.

A car-bomb blew up on the territory of the U.S. Embassy, as a result of which considerable damage was inflicted to the buildings of the embassy. Car-bombs were also exploded outside the French Embassy, on the territory of the international airport, outside the Ministry of Electricity and Water Supply, on the territory of the oil refinery in Shu'aybah, as well as near a housing estate in the Bidaa district where mostly Americans live. There were casualties as a result of the explosions.

The situation in Kuwait was discussed by the Council of Ministers of the country gathered for an emergency session.

According to the KUNA news agency, which quotes official sources, the security service of Kuwait arrested some people suspected of taking part in the organization of the explosions.

Group Claims Responsibility

LD121841 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Kuwait December 12 TASS -- A strong explosion occurred in the U.S. Embassy compound in Kuwait today. Part of the embassy building collapsed and a fire blazed out.

Explosions also occurred in the French Embassy building, in the control tower of the Kuwait International Airport, and in some other areas of the city. According to preliminary data, several people died and more than 50 were injured.

An emergency meeting of the Government of Kuwait was held to discuss the obtaining situation. The government adopted an address to the citizens of the country, calling on them to remain calm and render assistance to security bodies.

Paris December 12 TASS -- The "Al-Jihad Al-Islami" organisation has claimed responsibility for the explosions in Kuwait. A spokesman of the organisation told this in a telephone call to a FRANCE PRESSE correspondent in Beirut.

PRAVDA CARRIES IRANIAN TUDEH PARTY STATEMENT

LD092336 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 10 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA carries today a statement by the Central Committee of the People's Party of Iran [Tudeh Party]. Below follows the text of the statement.

"Judicial authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran have brought to trial a group of patriotically-minded officers from among the defenders of the revolution, and, together with it, some of the activists from among the members of the People's Party of Iran. This, thus, means the start of the implementation of a second stage in the plot against the People's Party of Iran.

The Central Committee of the People's Party of Iran regards this trial as illegal and devoid of any juridical force, since it is at variance with all the norms of international law and even with the articles of the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We protest the holding of the trial in the most resolute manner.

What is presented as charges at the trial is, without any doubt, the result of curdling tortures to which the defendants have been subjected for months. The aim is to totally distort the Iranian revolution, and to cause a further deterioration of relations between Iran and the USSR.

This trial is being held in conditions when the Iranian authorities are increasingly departing from the positions of the Iranian revolution and allying themselves with the forces of imperialism and reaction.

In these days, the People's Party of Iran appeals to all the democratic parties and international organisations to raise their protesting voice against this judicial violence in order to save the lives of Iranian patriots -- the officers and, together with them, the members of the People's Party of Iran.

We are confident that solidarity of the world's democratic forces with the accused, and their protest against this savage act will play an important role in defeating this hideous scheme."

MARITIME AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH TUNISIA

PM121125 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] Tunis, 10 Dec -- A USSR-Tunisian agreement on maritime navigation was signed here today by T.B. Guzhenko, USSR minister of the maritime fleet, and B. Khouadja, Tunisian minister of transport and communications.

A protocol was simultaneously signed defining the specific avenues of the development of Soviet-Tunisian cooperation in the sphere of maritime navigation.

ANC STATEMENT HITS U.S. MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD031346 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] Luanda December 3 TASS -- A statement issued by the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa points out that the progressive forces of Africa are condemning the started deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear weapons on European soil. The statement circulated here says that despite protests by the population of West European countries, the Reagan administration with the approval of the governments of some Western countries has started implementing its ominous plans. It was precisely the USA that led to the frustration of the talks in Geneva and virtually rejected all the Soviet peace initiatives on this important matter. The statement points out that Western propaganda does everything to distort the true state of affairs over the question of deployment of U.S. deadly weapons in Europe.

The ANC statement says that at the same time the USA has increased its aggressiveness in many regions in the world. In particular, the U.S. military unleashed the bloody aggression against Grenada and continue to render and augment all-round aid to the Zionists of Israel who commit excesses in the Middle East. This policy of the White House is a threat to peace and international security.

UPPER VOLTA'S HOLIDAY NOTED, PAST REVIEWED

PM091008 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[A. Prosvetov dispatch: "Revolution Holiday: A Time of Changes"]

[Text] Ouagadougou, Cotonou -- ...The drums beat a furious rhythm and the machetes thumped into the branches of trees in unison with them, brooms swished cheerfully. Youngsters argued over who was to carry the placard on which was written in big letters: "Long Live the Revolution! Down with Imperialism!" On Sunday, heeding the call of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, thousands of people in Upper Volta's towns and villages set to work repairing schools, medical centers, and administrative buildings, and became participants in a phenomenon new to the country -- collective voluntary work for the good of society.

...On that day Radio Ouagadougou broadcast stirring marches. Every so often they were interrupted by the news that the previous evening, on the night of 4-5 August 1983, a National Revolutionary Council headed by the 33-year-old Captain Thomas Sankara had come to power in the country. This name was well known to Voltans. For a time T. Sankara held the post of prime minister in the previous government, but his radical ideas on restructuring society were not to the liking of right-wing French military circles. Under pressure from them, the then president, Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, gave the order 17 May this year to arrest the prime minister and his followers.

Mass demonstrations were held in the country in response to the government's action, and it was forced to release Sankara and his supporters from jail.

For 2 and 1/2 months the "dual power" period continued in Upper Volta. A parachute subunit stationed 160 km from the capital in the town of Po refused to submit to directives from the government, which in its turn actively consulted with Paris and received munitions from there.

Eventually news reached Po that the reactionaries intended to conduct a military operation against the rebels, physically eliminate T. Sankara, and simultaneously remove the "moderate" President J.-B. Ouedraogo. It proved possible to forestall the right-wingers.

"Never before have I seen such enthusiasm from the population," P. Ouedraogo says. "It seemed like the whole city had come out to greet us. It was late and there was still some shooting but we could not persuade people to go home."

The conversation is constantly interrupted by phone calls. Time is of the essence in Upper Volta today and my interlocutor is responsible for a busy area: P. Ouedraogo is the national secretary general of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution.

"The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution should be seen as organs implementing the National Revolutionary Council's policies on the spot," he continues. "'Cells' are of great importance in the work of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution in certain directions. Thus, 'mobilization of the masses and revolution education' is the task of the political 'cell.'"

T. Sankara, chairman of the National Revolutionary council, received the Soviet journalists in his office at precisely the appointed time. Among the books on the shelf I noticed a three-volume set of lenin's works.

"We have a great interest in life in the socialist countries," the head of state said, "and in the achievements in restructuring society on the basis of social justice and successes in various spheres of human activity."

The National Revolutionary council's action program envisages rebuilding the entire state apparatus, and the revolution sees as its ultimate goal the creation of a people's democratic state.

...Today Upper Volta marks its national holiday -- Republic Day. The revolution is only at the beginning of its road, it must still assert itself in clashes with enemies and in its daily practical activity, but its successes are undoubtedly evident.

SOVIET DELEGATES, ARGENTINE OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS

PM121124 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Visit"]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec -- A USSR delegation, here on the occasion of R. Alfonsin's assumption of the Argentine presidency, has met with the National Congress leadership.

During a talk A.S. Barkauskas, head of the Soviet delegation and deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, expounded the Soviet viewpoint on the most important international problems and spoke about the measures being taken by the CPSU and the Soviet government in the interests of preserving peace and preventing the unleasing of a new world war.

J. Pugliese, speaker of the Argentine National Congress Chamber of Deputies, emphasized in turn that, in the tense situation prevailing as a result of the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe and the continuing conflict in Central America and the Near East, Argentina will be taking measures to reduce international tension and strengthen peace and detente. He observed that R. Alfonsin's government will be pursuing an independent foreign policy based on the principles of protecting national sovereignty and territorial integrity and noninterference in other countries' internal affairs.

Questions of Soviet-Argentine relations were discussed during the meeting. The Argentine parliamentarians expressed satisfaction with the state of these relations and advocated further development of cooperation with the Soviet Union in the field of economics, trade, science, technology, culture, and sport.

BUSH ARRIVAL IN EL SALVADOR REPORTED 12 DEC

LD121834 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 12 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Bush has arrived in El Salvador. Observers point out that his visit is taking place ata time when the troops of the pro-American regime are suffering substantial losses under the blows of the national patriotic forces of El Salvador, which have liberated vast areas of the country. In these conditions they consider that Bush will probably promise to supply the junta leaders with new deliveries of American weaponry and increased military and economic assistance of approximately $60 million in this financial year.

Met by Protests

LD101646 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires December 10 TASS -- "Americans, get out of Latin America!" "Hands off Nicaragua!" and "Cease interfering in our affairs!" were the slogans by which thousands of people of the Argentine capital met the U.S. delegation led by U.S. Vice President George Bush when they appeared near the building of National Congress. The delegation arrived here to attend the inauguration of President Raul Alfonsin. The participants in the demonstration pelted the U.S. delegation with various objects, preventing them from entering the congress building. They chanted anti-American slogans and continued whistling until the delegation took refuge in the building.

The similar "reception" was accorded to the Chilean delegation. Those present chanted: "Pinochet is a killer!" "Chile, we are with you!" and "Freedom to Chilean patriots!"

'BIG PINE-3' TO FOCUS ON 'ANTI-GUERRILLA WAR'

LD121538 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 12 TASS -- The Reagan administration firmly intends to consolidate on a permanent basis the United States' military presence in Central America. Hardly had joint U.S.-Honduran "The Big Pine-2" military manoeuvres ended, when the United States began preparations for a new show of military power in the region. The NEWSWEEK report that the Pentagon is planning "The Big Pine-3" military games which are due to start in highland Honduras close to the borders with El Salvador and Guatemala next summer. Taking part in them this time apart from the United States and Honduras will be the Armed Forces of Guatemala and El Salvador. The chief goal of the forthcoming manoeuvres, the NEWSWEEK writes, will be mastering the tactics of the "anti-guerrilla war", in other words, combatting national liberation movements in Central America. At the same time Washington is bent on resolving one more foreign policy task, namely, to draw the Guatemalan military regime as deep as possible in its militaristic actions in the region.

U.S. ACTIONS IN GRENADA CALLED 'ILLEGAL'

PM121203 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by A. Sukharev, vice president of the Soviet Jurists Association: "The Occupation of Grenada is a U.S. International Crime"]

[Text] The entire world recently witnessed a new monstrous crime by American imperialism. Soviet jurists, like our country's entire public, received the news of the U.S. Armed Forces invasion of Grenada with indignation. They contemptuously reject the Reagan administration's attempts to justify its piratical action by some references to norms of international law. The quite unprovoked aggression by a mighty power -- A UN Security Council member -- against the sovereign state of Grenada was explained by the claim that the military invasion was a measure to "protect" the American citizens who were there. But the U.S. Administration had received special notification from the Grenadian authorities that nothing was threatening the lives of American citizens and that their safety was ensured. And this was subsequently confirmed by the Americans themselves -- approximately 200 medical school students.

Another allegation by the U.S. President was that Grenada was in need of American intervention in connection with the "violation of human rights and freedoms." This is not to mention the absurdity of such an argument from the viewpoint of the UN charter and international legality, since this comes entirely within the internal competence of any state, and it is impossible not to see here a U.S. double standard in its approach to different countries. Washington has never raised the question of armed actions against the government in, for example, the Republic of south Africa, Chile, Paraguay, or Guatemala, where actual -- not imaginary -- mass violations of human rights have become the rule.

The reference to a "request" from a number of Caribbean countries said to be linked by a regional treaty to interfere in Grenada's internal affairs does not stand up to any criticism.

It should be pointed out, above all, that from the viewpoint of international law such a "request" is patently illegal in nature. The United States, as R. Reagan himself declared, began acting against Grenada even before receiving such a "request." Finally, according to the UN Charter, the use of a state's armed forces to resolve interstate conflicts is possible and lawful in only one instance, namely in the event of repulsing aggression. It was not the United States but Grenada that was the target of aggression. Moreover, many Caribbean states directly objected to the American intervention.

R. Reagan's allegations of a Cuban military presence in Grenada, as well as of the supposed construction of a military base there, also proved groundless. This lie was convincingly refuted by many foreign observers, as well as by the British company that was undertaking the joint construction of an airport with Cubans for the purpose of developing tourism on the island. Another myth concocted by the American Administration also burst like a soap bubble -- the myth of the presence of Cuban arms dumps on the island. There simply were not any weapons there.

However the U.S. Administration twists and turns, its actions are now unequivocally qualified as aggression. The Security Council draft solution bluntly pointed out that the armed invasion of Grenada is "a gross violation of international law and of that state's independence, sovereignty, and territorial inviolability." The United States alone voted against that resolution, using its right of veto. However, the UN General Assembly resolutely condemned the U.S. aggressive action and demanded the withdrawal of foreign troops. In this it proceeded from the definition of aggression (1974) which states, in particular, that aggression is deemed to be "an incursion or attack by a state's armed forces on another state's territory or any military occupation, however temporary in nature, resulting from such an incursion or attack..." (p 3). "No considerations of any nature, whether of a political, economic, military, or other nature, can serve to justify aggression" (p 5).

Precisely this is why the world legal public resolutely exposed the U.S. criminal action in Grenada. Thus, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers pointed out in a statement for the press that "on a legal plane the aggression by the United States -- a permament member of the UN Security Council -- against a UN member -- sovereign Grenada -- has been carried out in violation of the most elementary principles of international law and is an encroachment upon the authority of law, which the UN Charter recommends should be strengthened in every possible way." It rightly emphasized that "the U.S. armed intervention in Grenada does not come within any legal framework and is therefore an illegal and immoral act of aggression which no arguments can justify."

During the aggression the United States grossly violated all norms of international humanitarian law. Right at the start of the invasion civilian targets, including a hospital, were destroyed by artillery fire, and the civilian population died. Freimark, a specialist from the GDR who was on the island, testified: "They were killing peaceful inhabitants, including women and children, in daylight before my eyes. And not only during air raids but also with aimed artillery fire. A real hunt for people was taking place." As a result of aimed shelling by an American squadron a hospital was razed to the ground, and 50 patients died. As is clear from a report by a UN special group, a number of government buildings were destroyed during the armed invasion, including the prime minister's office. The American aggressors captured and are keeping injured Grenadians in concentration camps. Eyewitnesses relate that instead of rendering medical assistance the camp command carried out intensive psychological indoctrination of them. U.S. Marines arrested a number of members of the Grenadian Government, who were subjected to humiliating treatment. All these actions grossly flout the Geneva conventions on the protection of victims of war.

The U.S. occupation of Grenada is a scandalous international crime. It is accompanied by the total destruction of that independent state's sociopolitical structure and has created tremendous difficulties for the country's population. According to CBS TV, "the food shortage is a serious problem for the Grenadians." The occupiers have released criminals from jail, and robberies and violence are flourishing on the island.

As General Farris, commander of the 82d U.S. Airborne Division, declared in an interview in THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, the American occupation forces' task includes setting up a strong police apparatus. Its purpose is to step up terror against patriots and break resistance to the occupiers. Moreover, special military police are being created from servicemen of the occupation troops. Mass arrests are being made on the island. Hundreds of political prisoners are now being held in jails and camps. This is a gross violation of the 1899 and 1907 Hague conventions and the 1949 Geneva conventions.

The actions of the U.S. Armed Forces and of those persons who aspire to power in the country with the help of foreign bayonets are juridically invalid and illegal. The actions of former Governor General P. Scoon, who "annulled" the powers of Grenada's UN representative, are also illegal.

The brazen U.S. aggression against Grenada raises the question of its international responsibility and of the criminal responsibility of the persons directly guilty of committing international crimes. It must be frankly stated that the policy of the U.S. ruling circles at the present time is based on the total denial of any standards of international relations. Under the conditions of the arms race and imperialism's nuclear blackmail this policy cannot but alarm the peoples of European countries, which are becoming Washington's hostages in the deployment of new American missiles in Europe. The international community must do everything to end tyranny and violence in international relations once and for all and call Reagan's administration to account.

PAPERS REPORT SHEVARDNADZE, KUNAYEV ACTIVITIES

PM1Z1345 [Editorial Report] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 1 December frontpages a 250-word GRUZINFORM report titled "Talk at the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee" covering a 30 November meeting between E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, and "a group of participants in the festive jubilee session of the Presidiums of the USSR and Georgian SSR Alpinist Federations devoted to the 60th anniversary of Soviet alpinism."

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 3 December frontpages a 600-word GRUZINFORM report titled "Dedatsikhe Is Rising Again Above the City" on a 1 December tour by E.A. Shevardnadze of the restoration work carried out at the Narikala fortress complex above Tbilisi.

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian on 3 December frontpages a 250-word KAZTAG report titled "Visit to the Health Complex" on a 1 December visit by D.A. Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee, to the newly-built Alma-Ata general hospital.

IZVESTIYA PROFILES NEW MINISTER VELICHKO

PM1Z1550 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian in its 11 December Morning Edition frontpages the following biography of Vladimir Makarovich Velichko, newly appointed minister of power machine building:

"Comrade V.M. Velichko was born in 1937, is a Russian, has been a member of the CPSU since 1962, and was educated as a mechanical engineer. He began his labor activity as a foreman and worked his way up to director of a machine buildng plant. In 1975 he became first deputy minister of power machine buildng. He is a winner of the USSR State Prize."

The biography is accompanied by a full-face photograph of Velichko and is carried immediately below the Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on his appointment.

IZVESTIYA reports Korotov's retirement as minister and the Politburo's thanks to him on page 2.

LENINGRAD OBKOM BUREAU DISCUSSES TRADE SERVICES

PM1Z1103 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Nov 83 p 1

[LENTASS report: "At the CPSU Obkom"]

[Text] At a routine session the Leningrad party obkom bureau discussed the work of the Slantsy CPSU Gorkom to improve trade and consumer services for the population in light of the CPSU Central Committee's demands. As was noted in the discussion of the question, the decisions of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and the speeches by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium devote paramount attention to implementing a wide range of steps to consistently increase the Soviet people's prosperity. It was stressed that the Slantsy party gorkom considers the fuller satisfaction of the population's demand for various goods and services to be one of its most important tasks. The rayon has achieved the appropriate normative level in the supply of trade services to enterprises. Progressive forms of service are being introduced. The services sphere has been switched to a new operating system that is more convenient for the population.

At the same time the CPSU obkom bureau pointed to serious shortcomings in the organization of trade, public catering, and consumer services for the rayon's working people. Many shops, canteens, workshops, hairdressers' shops, and reception centers in the city of Slantsy and in rural areas do not meet modern demands. At the same time the capital investments allotted for the development of the material and technical base of trade and consumer services are not being fully assimilated.

The CPSU gorkom is not devoting sufficient attention to questions of utilizing existing potential to more fully satisfy people's growing needs and is less demanding toward the gorispolkom's work on these questions. Party committees' organizational activity is not always reinforced by a demanding attitude toward cadres, especially leading cadres, regarding the strict observance of plan and labor discipline and the rules of Soviet trade.

The party obkom bureau demanded that the Slantsy CPSU Gorkom take exhaustive steps to eliminate the noted deficiencies and ensure a considerable improvement in trade and consumer services to the region's population.

The CPSU obkom bureau warned Chief of Trade Administration V.Kh. Seleznev, Chief of Public Catering Administration I.M. Volovik, Chief of Consumer Services Administration G.T. Zhavoronkov, and V.A. Suvorov, chairman of the board of the oblast Potrebsoyuz, of their personal responsibility for establishing order in the work of the enterprises and organizations under their jurisdiction in the oblast's cities and rayons, devoting special attention to ensuring uninterrupted services for working people in remote population centers.

The session of the CPSU obkom bureau also discussed tasks linked with further developing the network and improving the work of children's preschool institutions in Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast, and with holding reports and elections in consumer cooperative organizations in 1984. Certain other questions were also examined.

12TH TAJIK CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD

PM120907 Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 1 Dec 83 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The 12th Plenum of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee was held 30 November. Taking part in its work were first secretaries of party gorkoms and raykoms who are not members of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, leaders of ministries and departments and the Tajik SSR Academy of Sciences, directors of scientific research institutes, deans and party committee secretaries from the republic's VUZes, responsible officials from the apparatus of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, the Tajik SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, the Tajik Trade Union Council, and the Tajikistan Komsomol Central Committee, and representatives of the mass news and propaganda media.

The plenum examined the question "On the Tasks of the Republican Party Organization Stemming from the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers Resolution 'On Measures To Accelerate Scientific and Technical Progress in the National Economy.'"

A report on the question was delivered by Comrade R.N. Nabiyev, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee.

During the debate on the report speeches were delivered by Comrades R. Khodzhiyev, first secretary of the Leninabad party obkom; K.V. Sarychev, second secretary of the Kulyab party obkom; A.D. Dadabayev, chairman of the Tajik Trade Union Council; M.S. Tabarov, first secretary of the Tursunzadevskiy party gorkom; A. Abdulvasiyev, chairman of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast Oblispolkom; S. Dzhalilov, rotary furnace operator at the Dushanbe Cement Combine; M.S. Asimov, president of the Tajik SSR Academy of Sciences; S. Ganiyev, director of the Vakhsh Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant; Sh.M. Sultanov, first secretary of the Tajik Komsomol Central Committee; A. Baymatov, Tajik SSR minister of local industry; V.A. Yakubov, chairman of the Tajik SSR Gosstroy.

The plenum adopted an appropriate resolution on the question under discussion.

The plenum examined an organizational question. The plenum relieved M.B. Babayev of his duties as Central Committee secretary and member of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Bureau in connection with his transfer to other work. The plenum elected Kh. Nasredinov, who previously worked as Tajik SSR minister of land reclamation and water resources, Central Committee secretary and member of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Bureau.

A closing speech was delivered at the plenum by R.N. Nabiyev, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee.

With this the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum ended its work.

'IDEOLOGICAL SABOTAGE' IN NATIONALISM, RELIGION

LD091455 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1010 GMT 7 Dec 83

["Lenin University of Millions" program presented by Radio Moscow commentator Yuliy Semenov]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, today we broadcast a program on the ideological struggle at the contemporary stage. Taking part in the broadcast is Professor Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich Nozhin.

Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich, we have received some letters on problems of the ideological struggle. Boris Vasilyevich Polevanov from Volgograd writes: Your broadcasts contain talk about the rights of man, but you say nothing about dissidents, and indeed Western propaganda always concerns itself with them. I should like to hear your opinion.

[Nozhin] Well, I think Comrade Polevanov is right. In fact, some time ago, in the ideological diversions of imperialism designed to undermine the socialist system from within, practically the leading role was allocated to the so-called dissidents, or more precisely renegades [otshchepentsy]. The whole provocative campaign in defense of the rights of men essentially amounted to a ballyhoo around the dissidents. Lately, in view of the obvious flimsiness of this venture, the noise died down a bit, but Western radio programs continue to exaggerate this theme. The question is asked, what are they, these dissidents? Even the choice of the term itself conceals the provocative, pharisaical character of this action. In translation from the Latin, dissident means "of a different faith" [inakoveruyushchiy], "of a different mind" [inakomyslyashchiy]. But the fact is, the talk about dissidence [inakomysliye] is just a cover, a shield for a handful of maligners, renegades and slanderers who have embarked on the unlawful road of open subversive activity against the socialist countries.

[Semenov] I will just mention the comparison writer Sergey Sortakov made on this subject. If in laying the foundations of a new house, someone thinks differently from the united collective of builders, his dissidence is a personal affairs, but if figuratively speaking he pours fuel oil into the good concrete prepared by the hands of others, in the expectation that the foundation of the new house will sink, this is no longer dissidence but counteraction [inakodeystviye] and this cannot be permitted by our people.

[Nozhin] I should be especially stressed further, Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich, that the main condition for the transition of such individuals to the anti-Soviet road is the encouragement and support of the West's special services, the conductors and executors of the policy of the ruling circles.

[Semenov] In other words, without the West's special services there would not be any dissidents?

[Nozhin] Of that there is no doubt. For their recruitment has been conducted essentially by the same methods as the recruitment of spies. The stakes were placed on morally degraded elements. Account was taken of many of their weaknesses -- political, ideological, moral, greed for money, consumerism [veshchizm] distorted dreams of permissiveness [vsedozvolennost]. And when the criminals found themselves in the dock, the special services and subversive centers tried to give them the halo of lovers of the truth, champions of the rights of man. In this way the main task was performed: to distract the attention of the world public from the real problem of human rights, to present imperialism surrounded by the halo of defender of rights and liberties.

Assorted renegades who have found themselves in the West are practiced in this psychological war for the purpose of instigating anti-Soviet moods. Shameful propaganda shows are organized, such as the public k'ssing of former U.S. President Carter and criminal Bukovskiy, the solemn reception by President Reagan of a group of professional anticommunists and renegades such as the bloody hangman of the Ukrainian people, Yaroslav Stetsko, a reception which you will remember was revealed the other day at the press conference by a resident of the city of Ivano-Frankovsk, Mikhail Kukhtyak. There is Washington's declaration of Sakharov Day.

[Semenov] By the way, Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich, why are the West's special services to impressed by the personality of Sakharov?

[Nozhin] I think because Sakharov, under the influence of those same special services that embarked on the road of candid anti-Sovietism, is a pathologically unique and unrepeatable phenomenon, a real find for our enemies. Judge for yourself. The author of a multitude of statements, appeals, protests, he rejects the revolution and socialist gains. Everything that is done to the detriment of our homeland, which raised him to academic heights, immediately provokes the approval and delight of Sakharov. With his unmitigated malice for everything Soviet, he has brought shame on himself in taking on the defense of the bandit Brazinskas, who as you remember murdered air hostess Nadia Kurchitsa, and malicious murderer Zatikyan and his henchmen, who perpetrated the crime in the Moscow metro. Sakharov noisily and joyfully welcomed the fascist regime of Pinochet in Chile. He applauds the United States and NATO in taking up the defense of American nuclear missiles in Europe. The worse it is for the Soviet Union, the better. Such is the credo of Academician Sakharov, who has become an obedient toy in the hands of the CIA and the strategists of psychological warfare.

[Semenov] Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich, it is known that one of the leading directions of the ideological diversions are the attempts to make use of nationalist revival. What can you say about that?

[Nozhin] Imperialism has always resorted to attempts to revive nationalistic prejudices, to provoke chauvinist moods and inflame mistrust among our peoples with the main aim of weakening our unity, especially in complex periods of history: after the victory of October, in the period of the Great Patriotic War, in the first postwar years. The mechanics of this ideological sabotage is well-known: to imperceptibly substitute for the natural national feelings nationalistic ones, that is, to provoke hostile relations toward other nationalities and peoples, to unjustifiably idealize the feudal or bourgeois past, to set internationalism and patriotism at loggerheads, to slander the Leninist principles of solving the nationalities question and reduce their attractiveness abroad.

[Semenov] For instance, the favorite hobby-horse of the anti-Sovieteers is the thesis of imaginary Russification.

[Nozhin] I think this ideological division is chiefly for the deception of public opinion abroad. Any Soviet person, regardless of nationality, knows the true situation. In our country the languages and cultures of all nationalities are functioning and developing on equal terms, and the Russian language is voluntarily accepted as a means of internationality intercourse in our country. It is not only the main language of scientific-technical and cultural exchange among Soviet peoples, but also the main intermediary in the process that enrich their spiritual life. There is no doubt that the development of these processes will be promoted by the implementation of the resolution of the party Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers on improving the study of the Russian language.

Of course, our party realizes that the nationalities question has not been removed from the agenda. As was stressed at the June Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the well-considered, scientifically-based nationalities policy is an integral part of the activity of the party in perfecting developed socialism. But it is necessary that each Soviet person understand that the pretended concern of the radio voices for one nationality or another is only a cover for ideological sabotage in the interests of imperialism.

[Semenov] This, by the way, is easily proved by the fact that anti-Soviet bourgeois nationalisitic emigres are recruited for participation in this kind of subversive activity.

[Nozhin] The reactionary emigre organizations try by various means, with the aid of postal correspondence, parcels, telephone conversations, personal contacts, to establish links with citizens of our country for subversive activity. Also used are tourism and cultural links. These emigre organizations publish printed matter steeped through and through in the venom of hatred for our country, and actively collaborate with hostile radio voices.

[Semenov] In our press and in verbal propaganda it is now being said quite often that nationalism frequently merges with clerical anticommunism.

[Nozhin] That is right. Clerical anticommunism is ideological sabotage under a clerical cover. Reactionary religious centers -- Christian, Judaical Muslim -- operate in contact with the centers of psychological warfare and religious-political organizations, especially emigre ones nursing malice toward everything Soviet or socialist. Among them is the extreme reactionary Russian church-in-exile [Russkaya zarubezhnaya tserkov] with headquarters in the United States. The leaders of this group broght shame upon themselves by their inclination toward imperialist circles after the Great October Socialist Revolution, by open support for the Hitlerites. They blessed the Vlasov traitors, they conducted the religious-political processing of traitors and renegades after the war. The Russian church-in-exile mounts ideological sabotage against our country, sends to the Soviet Union anti-Soviet publications, and organizes religious-political broadcasts.

Following the candidly monarchical direction of their activity, the leaders of the Russian church-in-exile, in November 1981 cannonized the suppressors of the Russian revolution, Tsar Nicholas II and all his family.

No less provocative are the religious-moral broadcasts for Soviet children in the Russian language.

Subversive bourgeois-nationalist policy is conducted by the Ukrainian Catholic or Uniate church led by Hitlerite Myrmidon and double-dyed anti-Sovieteer Cardinal Josif Slipiy, and also the Ukrainian autocephalous Orthodox Church. The nucleus of these groups comprises the bitterest enemies of the Ukrainian people, former Petlyura men, accomplices of Hitlerites, cutthroats from the Banderite bands and so on.

The Catholic church acts as the true apostile of anticommunism, seeing in scientific communism a dread force even at the dawn of its emergence. Hostile activity against the socialist countries is also carried out by a number of Protestant associations. One of the leading places among them is occupied by the so-called Slavonic mission, whose center is located in Sweden.

[Semenov] And at the same time, obviously, one must not fail to take into account the fact that today, both among the Catholics and the protestants, a current is emerging that wages a struggle against the omnipotence of imperialist monopolies, against nuclear death.

[Nozhin] Yes, we read about that in the papers, but reactionary, pro-imperialist forces are still the top-ranked members of their leadership.

[Semenov] I should also like to say that there is no end to attempts by imperialism to place the so-called Islamic explosion -- that is, the intensification of the social and political role of Islam -- at the service of clerical anticommunism.

[Nozhin] Here the most reactionary policy, the policy most hostile to communism, is pursued by leaders of the Muslim associations of Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Egypt, not infrequently connected with Washington. Their aim is to distract the mass of Muslim working people from the anti-imperialist struggle, to instill in them hostility toward socialist countries and communist ideals. Lately there has been an increase in attempts to exert hostile influence on believeing Muslims in the Soviet Union, too, for the purpose of inflaming religious fanaticism and arousing opposition. Islamic clergy, with the support of Washington, are trying with all their might to compromise in the eyes of Muslims the aims and ideals of the national democratic revolution in Afghanistan.

[Semenov] Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich, it is known that various religious sects are used in subversive activity to a particularly great extent. What can you say about that?

[Nozhin] Here the main stake is the support of extremist religious sect members such as Jehova Witnesses, reformist Adventists, certain Pentecostalist groups and others. Ring-leaders of extremist groups not infrequently act illegally, using religious activity as a cover for openly anti-Soviet operations. Western subversion centers are trying to supply them with money, propaganda publications, duplicating equipment for the production of illicit literature, and also slanderous materials for dispatch to the West concerning alleged persecution of religion and the church in the USSR.

[Semenov] It is obvious that in the struggle against these types of clerical anticommunism the main thing is that all Soviet people, including believers, should understand that at the root of ideological subversion here lie not religious motives, but anti-Soviet aims of the class enemy, directed at undermining the unity of socialist society.

[Nozhin] The ideological centers of imperialism are trying not only to support but also to propagate religiosity, to give it an anti-Soviet, antisocialist direction, to influence the younger generation.

[Semenov] Then one of the most dangerous form of racism today is Zionism.

[Nozhin] That is right. Zionist ideology primarily expresses the interests of the grande bourgeosie of Jewish origin, supported with the monopolistic capital of the United States and other imperialist powers. At the roots of international Zionism lie shameless anti-communism and anti-Sovietism in combination with militarism and racism. Therefore, Zionism is one of the strike detachments of imperialist reaction, striving to spread its sinister activity to all countries of the world. At the roots of Zionism is the mythical postulate of the exclusiveness and elect status [Izbrannost] of the Jewish nation worldwide. In favor of Zionism the Judaic clerics use the dogma that the Jews have been chosen by God and the false thesis that the Judaic religion and the Jews are allegedly inseparable.

[Semenov] And how can one explain the connection between Zionism and anti-Semitism?

[Nozhin] That is one of the apparent paradoxes of Zionism. But in actual fact, a striking manifestation of its Jesuitical essence is the admission of anti-Semitism as a blessing, as a force ensuring the separateness of the Jews. Hence the striking and at times little-known facts of Zionists allying themselves with the most reactionary forces of Russia on the soil of anti-Bolshevism, support for Kerensky, fraternization with pogrom-maker Petlyura, participation in Denikin's government, subversion against Soviet rule in the first years of the revolution, and so on.

But the most shameful fact -- to this day earnestly concealed -- was the Zionists' collusion with the German fascists on the united ideological platform of racism and anti-Semitism. The Zionists essentially were the Hitlerites' accomplices and even participants in the mass annihilation of the Jews. It is known that the Zionists wore the uniforms of the German Polizei -- for instance in Lvov -- served as overseers in Fascist death camps, and carried out espionage tasks for Hitlerites.

Today, the Zionists include the most militant opponents of detente, double-dyed anti-Sovieteers, quasi-fascist terrorists, and war criminals. An important aim of Zionism in our time is to capture the souls of Jewish youth in socialist countries by any means, to rally them to zionism, to work for their exist to Israel and other countries and to turn them into tools of aggressive policy, to use them in ideological subversion and espionage.

The creation in the USSR of the anti-Zionist committee of the Soviet public helps to step up the struggle against Zionism, to expose it reactionary ideology and political practice.

[Semenov] Now, esteemed comrades, we end our talk. Analyzing the hostile activity of our ideological enemy we have been convinced that our ideological conviction and ability to expose the hostile subversive conspiracy of any ideological diversion serve as reliable immunity against this hostile activity. Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich, thank you.

MARCHUK CALLS ECONOMIC EXPERIMENT 'MILESTONE'

PM121153 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Dec 83 First Edition pp 2-3

[Article by G. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology: "Scientific and Technical Progress and Production Efficiency"]

[Text] The successful solution of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress in the sphere of increasing social production efficiency and switching the country's economy to predominantly intensive development is closely bound up with the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the implementation of a unified state scientific and technical policy. The objective need for an acceleration of this kind is anticipated by the entire preceding development of the country's economy and accords with the natural laws of economic growth in the period of mature socialism. These tasks are concretized in the documents of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums and in the CPSU Central Committee and USSR of Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures To Accelerate Scientific and Technical Progress in the National Economy."

"We possess large reserves in the national economy," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov noted. "These reserves must be sought in the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the widespread and rapid introduction of the achievements of science, technology, and leading experience into production."

The task is to ensure in the next few years the production of machinery, equipment, instruments, and materials possessing indicators of a high world standard and to substantially improve labor productivity in all national economic sectors. To this end it is necessary to create fundamentally new types of equipment and technology, to constantly carry out the retooling of production on a wide scale, ensure comprehensive mechanization and automation and improve the standard and results of scientific research. It is equally important to improve the mutually advantageous exchange of achievements among the CEMA countries and to actively develop international scientific and technical cooperation.

The scale of the current tasks prompts one to take a new look at the process of the implementation of the results of scientific developments. Clearly it is necessary to considerably improve the forms and methods of planning, financing, and evaluation of social labor expenditure.

The intensification of the economy and improvements of its efficiency are determined in many respects by the use of progressive technological processes. It is the fundamentally new technologies based on major fundamental research and discoveries that are revolutionizing production. This is graphically illustrated by such techniques as laser, plasma, and powder metallurgy, self-propagating high-temperature synthesis, and others.

Every year the country starts producing several thousand new items of machinery, instruments and apparatus, but only about 100 technological processes come into operation, of which only a few dozen are fundamentally new. But the biggest economic effect, measured in terms of end product, is produced by the introduction of new technologies. They pay for themselves in 1 year.

Distinguishing features of advanced, modern techniques are: few operations; a continuous process; material-, energy- and labor-saving features; chemicalization; reduced losses and waste; automatic control of processes in a set mode and their optimization using computers.

Thus, in the extraction sector new techniques are radically altering ideas regarding the possible economic exploitation of deposits formerly thought to have no future. Progressive methods of extraction are increasing the level of mineral recovery from deposits. For example, the planned switch to new methods and means of recovering oil from deposits and the extraction of coal and nonferrous metallic ores metals and other minerals will mean a 15-20 percent increase in the yield of useful raw materials. New techniques are exerting a big influence on the utilization of energy resources and material and technical resources and the reduction of labor expenditure.

The switch in energy-intensive production units to a rational combination of processes accompanied by the release and absorption of heat promises considerable savings. This is the way to achieve maximum production efficiency and it is already being followed in the planning of chemical, metallurgical, and machine building enterprises at the country's leading design bureaus.

The use of parts made from powder in metal-working provides a saving of 2 metric tons of rolled metal per metric ton of parts and makes some 80 metal-working machine tools and around 190 high-skilled workers available for other work. The application of coatings made from powder means nearly four times fewer losses of metal from corrosion, increases the strength of the parts and lengthens their life.

Technology is exercising an increasing influence on the development of materials and designs for equipment. Machinery is become so much more complex and precise that the provision of production technology is as complex a problem as machinery design. This means that technologists have to begin work at the earliest possible planning stage.

The progress of machine building at the present stage is characterized by an improvement in the technical parameters of the equipment that is being manufactured. The use of brand-new instruments, computer technology and progressive high-tensile, heat- and corrosion-resistant and other materials in machinery design is rapidly growing.

As is known, automation is a very important means of developing machine building production. An analysis of Soviet and foreign experience shows that the time spent on the manufacture of articles in machine building in many cases constitutes the minor part of the production cycle. A lot of time is spent in various types of intra- and inter-shop transport and supply and monitoring operations and also on unnecessary organizational and technical holdups in interrupting the production cycle. It follows from this that the improvement of the basic production technique will not provide the desired results without comprehensively automating the entire production chain and making the overall production process more continuous.

The development of modern technical facilities for transport, warehouse and handling operations in industry, agriculture, construction and transport is seen as an important sphere of comprehensive mechanization and automation. Material-handling and warehouse equipment is becoming an increasingly important element of main and ancillary production. The widespread introduction of these facilities requires 3-4 times less expenditure. The money is quickly recouped and it releases a considerable amount of manpower.

Approximately 75 percent of modern machine building is based on series or short-run production. The rapid changes in the range of products are due to the ongoing restructuring of production at enterprises. This results in a fundamentally new view of the efficient technological structure of production. The technical organizational means that have been effective where the automation of mass, single-range production is concerned are an obstacle when it becomes necessary to introduce new products.

What is the solution? It has been suggested by life. It is to go for production units that can readjust quickly. Of considerable significance in their creation are the development and wide use of industrial robots (automatic manipulators with program control). They will automate manual labor in many operations and replace people when it comes to heavy work and operations that are health-threatening. Automatic manipulators combined with other modern equipment pave the way for rapidly readjustable production modules -- the basic components of computer-controlled automated sections and shops.

In the current 5-year plan the national economy will receive more than 100 types of automatic manipulators and "equipment-manipulator" automated technological complexes built in accordance with the unit-module principle using microprocessor technology.

The automation of production and control in national economic sectors presupposes the creation of multipurpose and specialized systems. Modern automation facilities make it possible to create a single complex comprising the entire technological chain: from designing machinery, equipment and tools using automated design systems (SAPR) and controlling technological processes with automated technological process control systems to production control in general, using automated control systems. This is made possible by the broad development and expansion of the production of new types of computer equipment -- from big computers to microprocessors.

The effectiveness of automation and computer facilities is governed by their integrated use. Failure to coordinate them means, as a rule, that you only get a fraction of the potential economic effect. But an integrated automation system multiplies the economic effect and produces fundamental transformations in the technical level of production. In the very near future the organization of enterprises could be based on flexible automated production units comprising robotized complexes, transport and warehouse facilities, and computers.

The acceleration of scientific and technical progress is part and parcel of the improvement of the technical standard and quality of the machinery being manufactured. This particularly applies to products used in large quantities in the national economy: tractors, trucks, machine tools, television sets, refrigerators, and so forth. Many components, parts, and materials are needed for their manufacture. Improving their technical standard means improved quality, reliability, and the durability of the finished product.

About 4,000 new types of machinery, equipment, instruments, and means of automation are put into production annually in the national economy and around 160,000 items of equipment undergo modernization. In terms of their technical standards (productivity, reliability, metals-intensiveness, energy consumption, and other indicators), as a rule, they are a match for the best foreign examples or are even better.

At the same time, the State Committee for Science and Technology commissions' regular checks on articles show that a considerable amount of the equipment still falls short of modern requirements and needs to be replaced or modernized. One of the chief reasons for this is the development personnel's and manufacturers' lack of responsibility for the technical standard and quality of the products and the poor quality of materials and components. To a large extent this is due also to flaws in the current system of economic and moral incentives and of renewal and improvement of the quality of the equipment that is being produced.

Nor is the rate of renewal of industrial output satisfactory. Statistics show that the annual percentage renewal of existing equipment is clearly insufficient. The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution envisaged introducing into planning normative renewal dates for the different types of products.

The normatives will form the basis for the elaboration of plans for the creation and production of new products and the discontinued production of obsolete articles. This measure is very important since the observance of renewal rates is the springboard for successes in the retooling and modernization of industrial enterprises, the programs being elaborated for the standardization of production and improvement of the system of certifying products in two quality categories -- top and first -- will contribute to this. The idea is that the production of articles that have failed to get a certificate will be discontinued.

Standards, for their part, will be oriented primarily toward meeting the main technical demands on finished production which ensure that the best world indicators are achieved.

Until now the role and responsibility of customers for the development of the new equipment used by them and its technical standard and efficiency have been minimized. Cooperation between consumers and manufacturers takes place, as a rule, only during the coordination of the technical requirements for future output even though it should take place at all stages of its creation, production, and use. This procedure will be changed in the near future. Ministries and departments -- the main orderers of products -- will also become responsible for the standard of the indicators of the new equipment.

The question of improving the methods of the planning and management of scientific and technical progress is of great importance. During the 11th 5-year Plan period the USSR Gosplan, the State Committee for Science and Technology, and the USSR Academy of Sciences, together with ministries and departments, formulated and have been implementing unionwide scientific and technical programs for the comprehensive solution of the most topical problems of national economic development. They are already having a great effect on the national economy.

Sectorial scientific and technical programs are now also an important element of targeted program planning. The targets of these programs will be included in ministry and department plans and their fulfillment will be obligatory. To this end it is envisaged that financial, manpower, material, and technical resources, design and research work quotas, capital investments, and contracts for construction and installation work will be allocated as a priority.

Republic and regional scientific and technical programs have an important part to play in the acceleration of scientific and technical progress in the national economy. It is therefore deemed necessary to include their main targets in national, republic, and sectorial state plans. It is a characteristic feature of such programs that they coordinate all research in light of the particular features of a specific region. Interesting experience already exists here. A number of important republic programs are being carried out in the Ukraine and other union republics. The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the USSR Gosplan have approved research programs for the comprehensive use of natural resources and the development of production forces of Siberia and the Issyk-Kul Lake region and have ratified the main targets of these programs. Much work has been done by the Moscow CPSU Gorkom on shaping scientific and technical programs. Union republic Communist Party Central Committees, the Moscow, Leningrad, Donetsk, Lvov, Ivanovo, Saratov, Sverdlovsk, Novosibirsk, and Tomsk party obkoms, and the Krasnoyarsk and Maritime party kraykoms have been paying considerable attention to the implementation of unionwide scientific and technical programs and their targets.

The targeted program methods of planning require the restructuring of the management of scientific research and the assurance of the greater mobility and flexibility of organizational structures. The practice of creating experimental temporary collectives for resolving important scientific and technical tasks has given a good account of itself.

The experience of large scientific research and planning and design institutions shows that the concentration of scientific and technical potential should proceed in future along the path of the creation of sectorial technological centers and science and production associations possessing a powerful experimental production base and capable of ensuring coordinated operations throughout the whole science and production cycle.

It emerges from the practical activity of the science and production associations -- and there are already over 250 of them in the country -- that they are reducing the time spent on creating new equipment by 50-66 percent and are reducing development costs. It is clear that the science and production associations must contain strong scientific institutions.

The work plans of scientific research institutes and design organizations are determined to a considerable extent by the demands of national economic sectors and must be targeted toward meeting both present-day and long-term national economic needs. In this sense it is of fundamental importance to step up the attention paid within sectors to modernization and retooling. This means that scientific institutions and design organizations should be enlisted right now in the formation of draft plans for the reorganization and retooling of sectors for the 12th 5-Year Plan.

The acceleration of scientific and technical progress is linked to the improvement of the economic mechanism and the provision of incentives for the creation, assimilation, and introduction of new equipment. The time has come to raise the study of the problems of the economics of scientific and technical progress to a qualitatively new level corresponding to the transition to the intensive path of development.

In past years the requirements regarding output in terms not only of technical parameters but of economic parameters have increased. The criteria for evaluating the national economic effectiveness of new equipment are acquiring paramount significance. The economic effect per ruble of expenditure from its introduction into the national economy has somewhat declined in the last 10 years.

What is the reason for this? It is partly related to the increased complexity and growth of expenditure on its development and manufacture. But this is not the only factor. If the benefits of the new development are not widely distributed, the economic effect of the innovation may not just be small, but may be completely absent. In brief, even the most progressive new equipment, and therefore the corresponding scientific and technical development, cannot be economically effective if their introduction on a requisite scale is not ensured. These questions must therefore be closely examined when national economic plans are being shaped.

Moreover, until recently, the plan indicators for new equipment and the technical level of production were not determining ones. Nonfulfillment of the plan in terms of these elements has often been made up for by increased production of earlier-assimilated output. The main fund-forming indicators will now be closely tied to the technical level of production and the output produced.

The resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers also envisages specific measures to promote the creation of new highly efficient equipment by, among other means, fixing additional incentives of up to 30 percent on the retail price.

It is also necessary to improve the methodology and practice of fixing prices on new industrial and manufacturing output by being guided to a much greater extent by the technical and economic parameters of the new equipment, its consumer characteristics, and the effect of its use in the national economy. The introduction of an economic experiment to increase enterprises' independence in 5 national economic sectors will be a milestone in this regard. Among the experiment's important tasks is also the linking of the fund-forming indicators to the size of the national economic profit from the sale of output. Increasing the influence of price fixing on stimulating scientific and technical progress is a lever that will speed and facilitate the path toward what is new and progressive.

We will thus have to improve significantly the mechanism for controlling scientific and technical progress in a short space of time. This work must incorporate both the drawing up of plans, methodology, instructions, and the implementation of specific measures to increase production efficiency in enterprises, associations, and every workplace and scientific collective. In other words, the acceleration of technical progress depends above all on the energetic and widespread involvement in it of all participants in production.

BRIEFS

SWITCHING TO GAS HEAT -- A nearly 50-km gas pipeline has been branched from the Urengoy-Novopskov gas main to the Uglegorsk GRES. The switchover of the GRES to gas fuel will make it possible to free each year for other purposes nearly 3,000 railroad cars now transporting coal. New branch pipes from the main are now being laid all over the Donbass. They will deliver Siberian gas to Kramatorsk, Donetsk, and other industrial centers of the coal basin. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 29 Nov 83 AU]

RECYCLING HEAT -- Used instead of coal or gas, waste heat in rolled stock production will give life to the country's first recycling power station built at the Ilich Plant in Zhdanov. Equipment trials have begun at the enterprise. The station's 4 turbo-generators, obtaining steam from the recycling systems at the 3000 Rolling Mill, will be capable of producing sufficient current to meet the needs of a city with nearly 100,000 inhabitants. In addition, the station will supply heat and hot water for the production and service needs of the rolling shop. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 2 Dec 83 AU]

NEW SUPERTRAWLER -- The Nikolayev Okean shipyard has launched another supertrawler capable of fishing at various latitudes of the ocean and even in the worst weather conditions. Many ships built at the shipyard -- tankers, large ore carriers, trawlers, and passenger diesel boats -- are being exported. [Summary] [Kiev to Listeners Abroad in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 28 Nov 83 AU]

HEAVY-LOAD CARS -- The car-building plant in Stakhanov, Voroshilovgrad Oblast, has begun to assemble the country's first eight-axle freight gondola car. It is capable of transporting up to 100 tons of freight, or twice as much as gondola cars presently in use. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 30 Nov 83 AU]

INCREASED DEMANDS ON SERVICEMEN ACKNOWLEDGED

PM061459 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 Dec 83 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Military Duty"]

[Excerpts] Military duty is interpreted as the moral and legal obligation of servicemen to defend their country. Its main content stems from the social essence and purpose of the Army, and the nature of the state's social and political structure. In our Army -- an Army of the new, socialist type -- it has been given new expression and has acquired unprecedented mobilizing force. For the first time men with rifles started to defend not the interests of exploiters but the gains of revolutionary workers and peasants and the interests of the working people. The realization that they were upholding the beloved Soviet power gave birth to unprecedented moral spirit and prompted soldiers and commanders to carry out unparalleled exploits. The young Red Army utterly routed the hordes of internal and external counterrevolution.

Combat traditions and above all loyalty to military duty are handed line like a baton of glory from generation to generation of the motherland's defenders. The glory of the civil war heroes was continued and developed in the mass heroism shown by Soviet servicemen in the Great Patriotic War. The names of Private A. Matrosov and General D. Karbyshev. Political Officer V. Klochkov and Captain N. Castello, the glorious pilots A. Pokryshkin and I. Kozhedub, the valiant submariners M. Gadzhiyev and N. Lunin, and many other sons of the Soviet people have become symbols of courage and loyalty to duty.

This loyalty has deep roots. The sense of duty characteristic of Soviet servicemen is based on an infinite love of and devotion to the socialist motherland, on communist conviction, on profound understanding of the policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and the tasks of the Soviet Armed Forces, and on their conscientious fulfillment. "The USSR Armed forces' duty to the people," the USSR Constitution says, "is to reliably defend the socialist fatherland and maintain constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor." today this readiness is measured by a special standard of responsibility. The increased demands made on Soviet military cadres and all personnel are dictated by the qualitatively new level of development of the means of armed struggle, and also by the international situation, which has sharply deteriorated through the fault of U.S. ruling circles and their NATO partners.

Under these conditions the Communist Party and the Soviet state are taking every step to maintain the country's defense capability and the Armed Forces' combat readiness at the proper level and to reliably safeguard the security of the Soviet people and the peoples of the socialist community states. Our state's resolve to provide the appropriate response to any attempt to disrupt the existing military-strategic balance was convincingly reflected in the statement by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, with regard to the start of the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles in West Europe.

Ardently approving this statement, Soviet servicemen are drawing their own practical conclusions and are becoming more profoundly aware of their historic mission and personal responsibility to defend the socialist fatherland. Loyalty to military duty means devoting all their strength and knowledge to the struggle to strengthen the motherland's might and defense capability and the combat might and readiness of its Armed Forces, selflessly mastering military matters, strengthening discipline, and always being ready to heroically defend the motherland and the gains of socialism. It is important that the call of duty determine a serviceman's every step, above all the execution of watch and guard duty.

Now that the troops and naval forces have entered the new training year, servicemen must be mobilized in the struggle to scale new heights in the combat skill of subunits, units, and ships and in the fulfillment of pledges in the socialist competition under the slogan "Stay alert and constantly ready to defend the gains of socialism!"

The military duty of defenders of the motherland is the duty of ardent Soviet patriots and internationalists. The education of Soviet servicemen in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism is a most important avenue of activity for commanders and political workers and party and Komsomol organizations. A Soviet serviceman's patriotism and internationalism are displayed in concrete deeds.

Being a patriot today, the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum noted, means tirelessly strengthening our motherland's economic and defense potential, increasing your readiness to defend peace from any encroachments by the imperialist aggressor, and taking a conscientious attitude toward one's military duties.

A high sense of duty is formed by the whole tenor of Army and Navy life, but above all by the purposeful political education work of commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations. An inexhaustible source of education is the heroic history of our party, the Soviet people, and the USSR Armed Forces, their revolutionary and combat traditions, the shining examples of valor, courage, bravery, and military gallantry of the heroes of the civil war and Great Patriotic War, and the achievements of today's servicemen, who are distinguished by a conscious attitude to their military duty.

It is important to seek to ensure that each serviceman understands that military duty is not a wish but an indispensable demand of the socialist state and its command must be followed honestly, consciously, and irreproachably. The military oath and statutes, which reflect the demands of military duty, have the force of a law that tolerates no deviations. The interests of the motherland's defense oblige the commander (chief) to resolutely and firmly demand observance of military discipline and order and not leave a single offense by a subordinate unpunished.

Soviet military duty encapsulates the totality of the demands made by the party and the people on the armed defenders of the motherland. True to their military duty, Soviet servicemen will continue to reliably defend the great creative work and revolutionary gains of the peoples of the USSR and, together with the servicemen of the fraternal socialist countries' armies, to vigilantly stand guard over peace and security.